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Reportage on Presidential Group of Eight Meeting

Brazil's Sarney on Environment

PY1210014589 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1824 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Speech by Brazilian President Jose Sarney at the opening ceremony of the third presidential summit of the Group of Eight countries in Ica, Peru; Sarney speaks in Spanish—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The environment is an issue that should be given priority treatment. We are becoming increasingly concerned with the distorted manner in which this subject is discussed at the international level. Our countries cannot accept restrictions on their development efforts. The preservation of the environment should be discussed from a broad and sensible point of view.

It is inconceivable to believe that, within the framework of sustained ecological development, only the developed countries can implement measures designed to preserve the balance of the earth's ecology. The truth is that the industrialized countries have been and continue to be responsible for the damage caused to the planet's environment. Therefore it is mainly their responsibility to create the necessary conditions for this issue to be tackled in a manner that will be satisfactory to everyone.

The worse contamination is that which stems from poverty. It is not fair to hold us responsible for damages to the ecosystem that are the result of living standards that our societies have not and have never been able to achieve.

In recent years we have been carrying out a real crusade is my country to preserve the environment. We are strictly controlling and punishing those responsible for harming our ecosystem. We hope that certain sectors of the developed countries will abandon their desire to turn underdeveloped areas of our planet into dumps for toxic waste and that they really decide to effectively eliminate the greatest threat to the planet's ecosystem and to the very survival of mankind; that is, the arsenals of weapons of mass destruction. [passage omitted]

During this year filled with so many important events we must definitively assert our desires for unity, for solidarity, for the universalization of the Inter-American community, for the reinstatement of Cuba into the OAS, for progress in solving the Malvinas Islands problem, and for eliminating every trace of colonialism on our continent. South America, at the threshold of the 21st century, cannot accept the anachronistic traces of a time long past. [passage omitted]

Mexico's Salinas Addresses Group

PY1310131089 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Speech by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari at the opening ceremony of the third presidential summit of the Group of Eight countries in Ica, Peru—live]

[Text] President Alan Garcia, presidents, ladies and gentlemen. I am here at this forum of Latin American political dialogue to confirm my country's decision to strengthen and to contribute to the progress of democracy and regional integration. Since its creation this group has recognized the interests of the community, a dedication for justice and independence, and a feeling of solidarity with all the people of the region. The hospitality of the Peruvian people and Government gives us the opportunity to study the current international situation and to identify points of agreement and points of disagreement for the benefit of our countries. This will allow us to harmonize our efforts to current world changes.

We have a commitment with our people to take the greatest advantage of the opportunities offered us by current changes in order to answer their legitimate claims for a better way of life. The permanent mechanism for consultation and agreement is the political arena for joint action. This forum has allowed institutional dialogue without creating bureaucracy. This is also a forum which, without interfering in the jurisdiction of other instances of regional decision, allows our countries to speak for us with a single voice in the international scene.

This forum is also the appropriate framework for initiatives for the benefit of our people. The current challenge is to be more consistent in our cooperation and to make our presence more effective. There was a time when the magnitude of our ideals did not go along with the means to achieve them. The distance between what was possible and what we wanted frequently ended in frustration and inevitable disenchantment. The effort for real progress in Latin American integration should be an ambitious but practical project and within our reach in its immediate goals.

This third presidential summit is taking place in an environment of detente among the superpowers. This new enrivonment has ended the rigidity of ideologies which kept the world enclosed in political blocs for decades. This is why we are enjoying an environment of renewed optimism which confirms that peace is the only rational and civilized way to reach prosperity. There is no world event that does not influence other events. This in turn shows us possibilities for trade and investment which we overlooked in the past. But this is also an indication of the challenge which our countries will have to face. One of them is to conceive a new way to compete against the great competition in the world market and in the revolution of knowledge and technology.

The possibiilty of growth depends on those two aspects because growth is the basis for lasting well-being and

democratic life. Therefore, our task is to review with seriousness and realism the terms of exchange, a rapprochement of domestic policies, the identification of agreements, and the firm will to resolve our differences. A great deal is at stake. The 21st century should begin on a more solid basis, allowing us to offer education, health and well-being to a larger number of people living in our lands. We cannot allow the future to condemn us to economic backwardness or to impose greater sacrifices on our peoples.

We have to seek new choices for development under the conviction that we have to find a solution to our problems. Mexico is a very proud Latin American country. We share the same origin, we share the same struggle, and we share the same ideals. Mexico has committed itself to change. It seeks to conslidate its democracy, to grow with price stability and to improve the standard of living of its population through production.

We made a commitment because we want change [words indistinct] to take advantage of it. We made a commitment because our people demand it and deserve it. These priorities define our opening to the world and above all it defines our natural way of political expression, economic cooperation, and Latin American culture.

The current decade has been lost for the development of the countries of the region. This will be very difficult [passage indistinct]. Without this the democracies of nations would be more fragile and freedom would always be threatened. This is why democracy and justice demand the reform of the state. This is also why the state should be less of an owner and more of a promoter of justice with the necessary force to defend sovereignty.

This is how we are in Mexico, we are going back to the original meaning which the Mexican revolution gave to our state. Our group has been able to help the process of world detente. Our actions in favor of peaceful and negotiated solutions to the Central American conflict were a clear demonstration of the virtues of the Latin American agreement in favor of peace and regional security. The Central American situation is still delicate. Its accelerated birth, growth, and profound economic recession come on top of the devastating years of military conflict. The people of that region want peace and development.

Freedom cannot flourish in a stagnant environment. The conslidation and the improvement of democracy demand stable growth and sustained development. The foreign debt has been in our region one of the most serious obstacles to growth. Our inevitable duty is with our people. We must grow in order to pay. Only under that condition can we hope to solve the problem of the foreign debt in our countries.

The recent initiatives in the political field have opened a promising framework and the possibility of hope. The reduction of the debt and its service have appeared for the first time as an element of hope. Within that context Mexico has reached a satisfactory agreement. The foreign debt was successfully renegotiated because we had the technical proof and the moral reasons to persuade our creditors. The agreement reached includes a reduction of the debt and its services and the flow of new resources on a multinannual basis.

We hope that the majority of the banks will support a reduction of the debt and its services but we also want some of the large banks in the different countries to provide new finance to Mexico. The renegotiation has had additional and favorable effects by internally creating an environment of greater certainty and confidence. In the two weeks that followed the agreement the domestic interest rates dropped more than two points. This is the equivalent of saving $10 billion in the service of the domestic debt. So far this year, $3 billion has been repatriated and 100 projects for foreign investments, worth $2 billion, have begun. However, the solution to the foreign debt does not guarantee the economic future of Mexico. Well-being can only be achieved through effort and work.

The Mexican experience is unique. Because it responds to our situation and our experience it cannot be transferred. The exchange of information, dialogue, and the solidarity among debtor countries strengthens our joint position and facilitates the actions of each country. The intraregional debt should also have an important place in our talks. It is our duty to find out among ourselves what we demand from others. We must overcome the stages of orthodox reorganizations which merely convered the refinancing of the overdue debt and the accumulation of the debt.

We can make the necessary financing a reality for promoting integration through more bold ideas. This is why we support the concensus reached in the meeting of finance ministers, held in Cancun last September.

We can find a considerable source of common benefit in trade. It is indispensable for our economic integration to advance, coordinating our policies of financial stability and commercial openess in the middle term.

Today we should begin identifiying concrete cooperation projects to effectively promote a more dynamic exchange. In the upcoming Uruguayan round we should seek common positions from which to incorporate new sectors to the international commercial systems.

One of the first goals of our integration should be to bring our nations closer in time and distance. We should improve telecommunications and air links between our nations. A fluid transport system and better communications are indispensable if we want more dynamic trade among our nations. Many of our predecessors dreamed of freer trade between all Latin Americans. A flourishing trade will be the symbol of our progress, and progress will be real if it is founded on reciprocity and complementation. We should promote joint investments for

technological innovations to broaden our capacity to compete in international markets and satisfy our own peoples.

The Latin American agenda now includes new topics of great importance. Mexico, like other countries, now considers drug production, trafficking, and consumption to be a national security issue. Mexico is giving considerable attention to the struggle against drugs because this problem undermines the stability of our institutions and destroys the health of our youth. An all-out and decisive struggle against drug trafficking is also a priority issue in international cooperation because the crimes stemming from drug trafficking transcend all limits and borders.

Through sovereign actions carried out within our borders, aided by a broader exchange of information, every one of us must wage a decisive struggle to eradicate this evil international problem from our countries. I also want to recognize the courageous struggle of Colombian President Virgilio Barco's government. We must increase the bilateral dialogues that we have maintained with greater and more effective initiatives.

The ecological problem is recognized int he world as something demanding the attention of all countries. Our efforts to promote projects of national development and regional integration must recognize the importance of economic, technological, and scientific progress as well as the adequate preservation of our envrironment. Our cities, rivers, and forests are our patrimony as well as being the patrimony of future generations.

Mexico will share this responsibility with the rest of the world. We will support all international initiatives pointing to an effective cooperation to recover the ecological balance in different regions of the world. However, in order to be effective we have to develop our countries so we can offer different options to a population that is able to survive without such a rational exploitation of natural resources. It is also necessary that industrialized countries recognize their own responsibility in these matters.

It is essential to strengthen our common identity and to promote the artistic heritage, writing, and culture of our communities to consolidate our integration. Here is what unites us best and makes us different from the rest of the world. Our culture is an authentic tool of liberation for our peoples. We have to increase and enrich our cultural exchange. We must create centers of Latin Ameican culture in each one of our countries to strengthen our Latin American identity, and to provide new creative strength for the defense of our traditions and national values.

My presidential friends. As we near the end of this century the challenge for Latin Americans is to modernize, yet avoiding the destruction of our singular historic evolution. Argentines, Brazilians, Colombians, Peruvians, Uruguayans, Venezuelans, and Mexicans want to continue being Latin Americans. We want to progress, yet we want to maintain our own spirit because we are proud of our past. We want to modernize in our own way, without surrendering our identity to simplify the future that we must create. We want to continue being latins, with our own ideas and traditions. We want to maintain the colors and happiness of our most authentic popular feelings.

Let us strengthen this new stage of Latin American solidarity, trusting in our own capacity and our own creativity and resourcefulness to face the challenges of the future with pragmatism, flexibility, and energy. Simon Bolivar's dream was in fact a modern project of Latin American unity, without hard and paralyzing structures. His revolutionary proposal included a kind of unity that contemplated the diversity of races, cultures, and traditions, in a marvelous continent with its majestic terrain and its tough yet kind peoples.

The idea of a new and integrated world is alive. The fulfillment of this ideal depends on us and the generations that come after us.

Uruguay's Sanguinetti Speaks

PY1310183089 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1920 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Speech by Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti at Group of Eight Summit in Ica, Peru—live]

[Text] Messrs presidents, ladies and gentlemen:

This a new meeting of the Group of Eight; a new, significant meeting that reflects the continuity of a historic line. As you have wisely stated, we are holding this meeting at a time when the world is undergoing an accelerated process of changes. At this meeting, we are facing old and new challenges, old ghosts and new hopes. We are upholding the same ideals and traditions that are deeply rooted in our same heritage, but this time we are emphasizing the need to effect modernization. This is no longer a rhetorical expression but a meaningful reality.

In Latin America, we are witnessing today a new form of modernization that emphasizes democracy and peace. Democracy is no longer conceived as a literary word, but as a practical, concrete reality. Our peoples practice democracy by voting; our citizens by exercising their freedom. This is a democracy that continues to stimulate us to harbor hopes amid so many problems and difficulties.

There were, and indeed there still are, those who rhetorically advocate democratic integration; there are also those who today find it easy to stimulate skepticism, who force us to remain idle, and who continue to remind us of our old wounds. These people fail to note that, as a pleasant surprise, democracy has emerged in good old Paraguay—which was forced into oblivion in the backyard of our continent—where the conquerors and the Jesuits once dreamed of founding a civilized community. Democratic ideals are unexpectedly thriving in that country, which we visited and which is now already democratized.

Who could have predicted 2 years ago that Chile, another sister nation, would today be experiencing an electoral campaign? Today we can see, as we saw the other night, a televised debate between a pro-government candidate and an opposition candidate; we were able to see that the persecutors and persecuted of the past are today imbued with the same spirit of freedom and are discussing the election of a free government in Chile in November [as heard]. Thus, by the end of the year all South American countries will have a government elected by their people.

Democracy is thus not just a rhetorical word or name, but a political plan that we are implementing. So is peace.

During the past years we have heard of many imminent wars in our region. We were able to prevent them, and made peace not just an extension of war but the fine political project of statesmen who place their honor, will power, and patience behind their efforts.

We have seen Central America under fire. Today we see it walking on a path of peace, albeit facing some turbulence. We have to note that Europe demands peace in Central America, yet that same Europe, during this generation, established fascist regimes in Goethe's, Dante's and Cervantes' fatherlands and involved the world in the horrors of war.

The demand for integration and the rhetoric of the skeptics make us appear to be like fancy knights who strive after an impossible ideal. Europe is achieving integration 500 years after finding us, 1,000 years after Charlemagne first dreamed about a united Europe, over the dead bodies of millions of people who fought unnecessary wars. If integration was not achieved the FRG and France would probably have continued fighting for Alsace and Lorraine. We have to learn the lesson.

Today we have Venezuela and Colombia involved in a frank dialogue to solve their problems. This is the benfit of integration. We should continue striving to leave our Alsacians and Lorraines in the past and continue working on integration.

Yes sir, democracy, peace, and modernity. But what is modernity but the instrument of the democratic state that the Mexican president has just mentioned. The modern state was born like a instrument to liberate our peoples from the social injustices of the 19th century. But the state slowly became a giant problem in itself. We have to transform this state into a governable entity capable of sustaining a permanent government project.

We also have to solve the problems posed by a rational economic system. We have lived in dogmatic worlds in America and Europe. We have lived through the dogmatic worlds of Hegel and Marx. They also tried to confront reality in its own way.

Today we and the world know that Hegel's idealist dialectic emptied our freedoms of content and then succumbed after generating authoritarian regimes. Today Hegel is only a philosophical reference. Marx was a materialist but not a dialectic because he tried to halt the course of history. His materialism has been modified and left behind by his own followers. Dogmatic attitudes are no longer valid. A new economic rational is necessary. The need for a new rationality is calling on us today to transform the state.

We are not talking of an abstract state, an abstract rational, or an abstract technology. Our education should be filled with these concepts without setting aside the sources of our humanism. Basic education, complemented by a more technical education, will liberate us.

We will need these instruments and a politically integrated region to solve our problems, our old and our renovated problems, which have changed their names with time but which remain the same old problems. What today we call protectionism of industrialized countries, foreign debt, poverty, drugs, are the same problems we had in the past: the problems stemming from human misery, the results of material egoisms, and the zeal for domination.

We have to face these problems with our new instruments. We will confront the problem of drug trafficking with decision, as Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia are doing. We do not think there is a simple answer to this complex problem. We will not make that mistake.

The problem of drug trafficking begins with the spiritual emptiness of industrialized nations. It is born when society loses its values. It is the consequence of a mistaken search for a way to escape the agonies of our modern society. Therefore, it is a deep and complex problem. We cannot think it will go away with simple answers.

This problem does not begin or end with a military plan or an education program. The problem does not begin or end with producers or consumers. It is an evil circle that must be faced in all its aspects if it is going to be solved. We will do so because we must do so.

Uruguay is not a drug producing country. But allow me to say that the problem cannot be solved at the expense of those who already live in misery. Countries like Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia understand the meaning of these words. These countries know the meaning of the problem because it is not easy to eradicate plantations that have been there for 1,000 years.

The problem constitutes a very great challenge for our civilization and it is not going to be solved without pain or real contributions from all those involved.

The source of our poverty is after all the result of problems typical of the underdeveloped world.

The foreign debt and protectionism are just two faces of the same situation. Today Colombia is heroically battling against the problem of drug trafficking. At the same time coffee prices are sharply dropping. Specialist say

that the two things are not related because the drug is not produced in the same fields and the social problem did not hit the same peasant families.

Everything is interrelated. Richeness and poverty are two sides of the same problem that always go together. How can we talk of fighting one of these problems alone when in a day, an afternoon, an instant, the international market is deregulated and coffee prices drop by half. This is a real problem. But who is responsible?

I do not think we have the right to ask for subsidies. We are not asking that. We have the right to have clear market rules and balanced and stable markets. Markets should not be open to unilateral strikes. Is this too much to ask?

The foreign debt was also caused by this sort of problem. If the foreign debt problem did not exist—I can assure you—the market situation and trade conditions would create one within a decade. That is why we should continue struggling for more clear and just trade rules.

These are the challenges; They are included in a dozen or so words that we mention every day: democracy, peace, democratic governability, integration, technology, poverty, drug, debt, and free trade. These are our challenges. We have been working on these problems. You, my presidential friends, have known and lived through the struggle of this group. We were born in the midst of incomprehension and skepticism. But we advanced, and those who did not understand us at the beginning began to listen more carefully. Those who wanted to stop us with their skepticism have today begun to talk and carry on dialogues with us. We have convinced everybody that we are capable of acting politically.

Alone, we have little power. Together we have great political and moral weight. This situation is now yielding positive results. Today we can tell our three friends—Carlos Menem, Carlos Salinas, and Carlos Andres Perez—that they will be the standard bearers of a consolidated organization. The founders of the group will all be gone by next year. Luckily, I can assure you that the man who will replace me in March, the man who will be elected in Uruguay's November election, is as convinced of democratic values, integration, and all that these principles represent as myself. I am immensely glad and confident to say that any candidate to the presidency, for his trajectory and convictions, will be as capable or more than I.

But the three of you will have to carry the torch. You will have to receive our successors and transmit to them our faith and experience. I have no doubt you will do so.

I am an optimist about life and about America. We have many problems, but we also a great deal of strength and generosity. Our peoples have enormous spiritual reserves. These reserves are what encouraged Virgilio Barco to launch his campaign against drug trafficking. He was sure that his people would accompany him.

These spiritual reserves moved President Menem to adopt measures to pacify the country a few days ago, thus seeking the historic reconciliation of his people.

Spiritual strength has allowed Alan Garcia to fight through very difficult times in Peru, in the middle of terrorism and economic difficulties, and still to maintain the same ideals he brought to the presidency.

It is Sarney's historic vision. Brazil is where America turns the corner. It is the corner that stayed united when Napoleon invaded Portugal, when Spanish America was breaking apart as a consequence of the indecisions of our King Fernando VII. The Brazil that continues to look at the other side of the ocean because its greatness so allows, is today joining its Latin American friends. This act requires courage and the vision of a statement.

It is the strength that encouraged Carlos Salinas in Mexico—a country full of traditions, including a strong revolutionary tradition—to work from the first day on his vision of a modern world. He has been confronting and hitting the remaining groups of privileged people in the country.

It is the spirit that moved Carlos Andres Perez, an old democratic fighter, to renew himself in government and begin his term with the vigor, courage, decision, and honesty to recognize that he was responsible for the most difficult economic decisions at a time of crisis.

This is not the fortuitous product of the meeting of inspired men. It is the product of statesmen who are interpreting their peoples' feelings' who feel that they are supported by mature peoples; who know that there is no demagogic answer to poverty; who know that only with hard, productive work, with technology working on our raw materials, and our freedoms strengthened by economic prosperity can Latin America reach its greatness—greatness that is not given away but built with our efforts. These are not fortuitous inspirations. These are the expressions of a modern Latin America, consolidated on the basis of its own roots, the generous personality of our spirit, full of contrast, but rich in human potential—a modern Latin America looking forward and conscious that if difficulties are great, its hopes are even greater. Thank you.

Venezuela's Perez at Opening

PY1410210689 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1940 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Speech by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at the opening ceremony of the third presidential summit of the Group of Eight countries in Ica, Peru—live]

[Text] Messrs presidents, friends, fellow Latin American citizens. I am participating for the first time as the president of Venezuela in this meeting of presidents of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Agreement. I am doing so with the same faith and

confidence as did the precursors of this great Latin American initiative who held the first meeting of the group.

Our agenda includes the great issues now affecting the region that require our attention and urgent solutions and which must be included in the current international situation, which is undergoing many changes. Some of these changes are positive, some go against other trends, and others work against the consolidation of the common destiny toward which we are struggling.

This third meeting of presidents gives us an opportunity to engage in effective and fruitful work for the benefit of our societies and to adopt decisions that will lead to action. Latin America must admit the importance of these annual meetings. These meetings are aimed at the essential unpostponable task of coordinating Latin American action for the well-being of the 400 million inhabitants of the fatherland.

An important ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 took place in Caracas in June last year. We are all members of that group. The ninth summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement was held in Belgrade in the beginning of September, and Venezuela then joined the group as a full member. More recently, a large number of Latin American presidents attended the UN General Assembly. We can say with optimism, at the beginning of the last decade of this century, that the multilateral system has been renewed in the quest for effective solutions to problems affecting the developing world.

This meeting in Ica is taking place at a very opportune time as it gives us an opportunity to take advantage of all the patterns of thought expressed in those important debates. Some of the maturing ideas have reached important stages, especially in the political field, while other initiatives could also lead to substantial results.

The foreign debt is one of the subjects emphasized by all of our countries. As long as this obstacle exists we will not be able to talk about guaranteeing stability, peace, or security, about the consolidation of democracy, or about sustained and autonomous development. Our democratic societies live under extremely severe conditions.

This Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Agreement is still only 3 years old; it is still very young. This group is undoubtedly the most important initiative for Latin American integration.

For the first time in our history the presidents of Latin American states are meeting regularly to collectively study and discuss our great common problems. The mere existence of this mechanism represents a giant step by our nations. But it would not be very realistic to overlook the fact that our task now is to systematize its objectives. We should not think, however, that we will find the solution to all our problems in this mechanism.

So far we have expressed our concerns over large issues like the foreign debt only rhetorically. It would be very unrealistic not to discuss the difficulties in achieving concrete results so that the Group of Eight can become a true and vigorous group of action.

Even though the international prospects today favor giving this mechanism a new dynamic thrust, we must decide on how to take advantage in an intelligence and resolute manner of the possibilities offered by detente and the example of European unity.

But we must try harder and remind ourselves to overcome old prejudices and the contradictions that have so often prevented us from acting together. We must admit that we have been dominated by national selfishness, which has inevitably exacerbated the difficulties and setbacks in consolidating our nationalism.

Latin America has seen democratic regimes established with the support of their people. But when the crisis begins to undermine their economies and institutions, they begin to lose hope; their skepticism over the values of democracy can threaten its stability.

President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, with his eloquence and progressive ideas, has just given us a brillant example of optimism and of how to value what we are and what we can be. And we must not stray from that path. On the contrary, we must admit that we are not doing everything we can and must do to achieve the essential goals our people are expecting.

In order to face this challenge Venezuela has decided to implement some reforms to make our society and state more democratic and efficient. These reforms are not exclusively centered on administrative issues: they seek political, economic, institutional, and legal transformations that will open our country to the challenges of the upocoming decade, the last of this century.

Our state reform is being conceived as a redistribution of power in Latin American societies to strengthen the citizenry's central role and their organization systems within different activities. The challenge of democratically transforming our Latin American societies must be our commitment for the 1990's.

The great challenge arises when we consider that we will not be able to achieve economic, cultural, or communication integration—as mentioned by President Salinas in keeping with the extraordinary initiative began by his government—if we do not first find a solution to the unbearable foreign debt problem, which has become the greatest obstacle to the progress and well-being of Third World countries.

We have talked a lot about this subject. We have made many proposals, but the truth is that we have made very little progress in solving it. We have not managed to create the mechanisms that could make it possible. Despite good proposals like the Brady Plan, the governments of the creditor countries are not assuming direct

responsibility for this problem; their actions are not in keeping with the guidelines they proposed and accepted in the debt renegotiation.

Unfortunately—and I am not saying this pessimistically but rather realistically—we must say that we are still in a very early stage of agreement on this important matter, which is related to our existence as democratic states.

I do not think I am exaggerating when I say that the political future of Latin America is running unforeseen risks if we, the Group of Eight, do not face and try to find definite solutions to this problem.

I think it is time to mention another problem that is just as important as the foreign debt: international trade. I have said that it is our task to collectively face the foreign debt problem. I am now telling you that only collectively will we be able to face the unfair problem of trade, which is the real problem of the Latin American countries.

Without an international trade order with solid markets for our products, fair prices for our raw materials, and the development of advanced technologies, our creditors could pardon our debts but in the future we would still find ourselves in the same position as today.

This was clearly explained by President Sarney, the leader of the largest and most industrialized country in Latin America. Brazil lives under the permanent threat of interruptions in its growth, its right to modernize, and its success in overcoming the phase of being a simple producer of raw materials—a role most of us had to assume for the benefit and well-being of the larger countries.

I think—and I do not know at what point I am being excessively optimistic—that the success of the Group of Eight lies in solving these problems, mainly the foreign debt. However, this success will come from our capacity and decision to leave aside our speeches and to work hard to establish fair relations with the industrialized North, giving interdependence the true meaning it must have. Messrs Presidents, today the validity of South-South relations are strengthened. People are becoming aware that a multipolar world will progress as long as the world powers acknowledge the need for interdependent relations in a world in which each country needs each other, but in which the need for Latin America has not yet been asserted. [Hay un mayor reconomimiento de que la multipolaridad avanza en la medida en que las superpotencias confirman el papel de las relaciones de interdependencia en un mundo en el que todos nos necesitamos reciprocamente pero que no hemos hecho valer hasta ahora el porque se nos necesita a nosotros, a los pueblos latinoamericanos]

Based on this assertion and a common initiative in which we must include the efforts made by President Alan Garcia and other chiefs of state from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America—who have an urgent need to promote cooperation among developing countries—we recently founded in Belgrade a group of South-South consultation and cooperation. This group is made up of 16 countries—five from Latin America, five from Asia, five from Africa, and Uruguay as the head of the nonaligned countries.

The heads of the countries who are members of this group will have two important tasks: to cooperate in the initiative we began in Paris among four Third World leaders—the presidents of Egypt, Senegal, Venezuela, and the prime minister of India—and French President Francois Mitterrand to hold a new North-South summit and to carry out consultations among the developing countries; and to prepare and follow up the specific programs of consensus and cooperation.

As stated by the president of this committee, Julius Nyerere, South-South cooperation will strengthen our independence, help safeguard our economic sovereignty, and make us less vulnerable to the unilateral actions and decisions of third parties, which so far we have been unable to stop.

Messrs Presidents, I am convinced that the permanent mechanism for consultation not only can lead to agreements but it can also lead to actions to preserve and strengthen several organizations which are basic instruments for carrying out our actions. It seems that in this perverse decade of the eighties we have forgotten these organizations.

The UN Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD], which is about to celebrate its 25th anniversary and to which the developing countries owe so much, demands our support to continue its work and actualize its goals. In the regional area SELA [Latin American Economic System] calls for our responsibility and presence to make its role as the first forum of Latin America and the Caribbean a reality. This is what we intended in 1976 when Mexico and Venezuela had the honor and privilege of proposing SELA to the other regional countries. It is our duty to come to SELA's rescue, to convey our firm will for integration, and to make it more pragmatic, which is something we have not been able to do with our collective organizations.

Messrs Presidents, there are two other issues on our agenda which are having growing importance and regional and international implications. Both issues are important to the international community. I am referring to drug trafficking and the environment. Drug addiction and illegal drug trafficking are increasing at a brutal rate and have devastating effects on society. They represent a threat to the security of states. Therefore, the permanent mechanism for consultation should be put into action. The international community, including the countries which demand production and those which are used for transit, have a responsibility.

This is why we support all joint actions to erradicate this crime against humanity, including the confiscation of goods resulting from this illegal activity and the reestablishment of mechanisms to prevent the laundering of money gained through drug trafficking as well as the

fraudulent use of banks and the regional and international financial systems. We reiterate our friendship and solidarity with President Virgilio Barco and the Colombian people for their courage and determination to fight against drug trafficking and the abominable terrorism it creates.

The terrifying crimes committed by drug traffickers in Colombia should be an alarm for humanity that inspires commitment because they show how far these murderers can go if we do not struggle against them at the international level until they are eradicated thereby preventing their becoming the most dreadful threat to humanity in the next millenium. But we must also be sincere about this issue. The way the problem is presented to world, it appears as that we poor countries of a rich continent—some used for producing drugs and others for international drug trafficking—seem to have complete responsibility for the existence and growth of this scourge to humanity. The real situation is different. This is also part of the traditional and unjust trade relations between the developed North and the developing or underdeveloped South.

The truth is that if there is drug production and export it is because there is growing consumption in the United States and Europe. Drugs do not escape the infallible laws of the market about which we are so often reminded and advised by the great industrialized countries. As long as the demand for drugs increases in the North, drug production in the South will also increase. Drug production will increse as long as underdevelopment, poverty, misery, bewilderment, and desperation prevail among our people.

It is important that the North and South understand that interdependency works both ways, with an interdependency of problems and an interdependency of solutions. The necessary police repression will be useless if the consumer countries do not reduce demand and if drug production is not attacked at its economic and social roots.

Regarding the environment, we should increase regional cooperation for the defense of the environment by implementing feasible priority programs and respecting the sovereignty of countries. We should also keep in mind that protecting the environment depends on a solution to the socioeconomic problems of the region. Our access to new technology will help us to preserve and improve the environment in harmony with the development plans of each country. The countries that make up the Amazon Pact are already setting an example of responsibility in protecting the environment of the large Amazon region.

Messrs Presidents, we are following with great interest and optimism the progress in Central America following last August's meeting in Tela. It is encouraging to see that the Central American people are willing to achieve peace, freedom, and justice under a state of law through elections to be held in the next few months. The decades of anguish and war in Central America are falling behind us. But let us not forget that the Contadora Group and the Contadora Support Group were created to solve the Central American problem and that the Permanent Mechanism of Consultation and Agreement emerged from those groups. Therefore we must continue to maintain a basic responsibility in supporting the goals of the Contadora Group and the Contadora Support Group to prevent those goals from failing in the next few months. Let us not forget that this commitment is also a commitment by the Group of Eight.

The serious situation that is threatening the territorial integrity of Panama is causing concern. Mr Presidents there are less than 3 months remaining before the administration of the interoceanic canal will pass into Panamanian hands; Panama will assume full sovereignty over the canal in the year 2000. There is an urgent need to fully comply with the spirit and wording of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, of which we are guarantors. The enforcement of democracy in Panama would be a key pillar in guaranteeing full Panamanian sovereignty.

However, the presence of a flagrant military dictatorship that has destroyed the legality and legitimacy of the Panamanian Government has led us to grave and profound reflections on the democratization process in Latin America and our collective responsibilities. Only recently, acting in accordance with these thoughts and as a result of the first collapse of the constitutional legitimacy of the Panamanian Government, the Group of Eight had to suspend Panama from participating. The dictatorial process that began on that occasion is now complete. What are we going to do? I believe that this is a question we must answer in view of our responsibility to the Latin American Continent.

More precisely, determination to strengthen the progressive optimism and confidence in ourselves of which Julio Maria Sanguinetti spoke, will prevent the rhetoric of skepticism from gaining momentum. Sanguinetti spoke of that optimism and confidence in reference to what is happening in Chile, where the entire Chilean society has forced a powerful and vigorous military dictatorship to open the roads of democracy to the people. That is the confidence and optimism that is reasserted when we see Paraguay, which was seized by a dictatorship that I called pharaonic, rising upon the values of democracy. In this decade that is so economically perverse but so politically vigorous for consolidating democracy in Latin America, are we going to impassively allow a military dictatorship to thrive when we were able to smother similar regimes in Argentina, Peru, and Ecuador? This is certainly a responsibility that we must assume and must not overlook.

Messrs Presidents, this third summit of the Permanent Mechanism for Political Consultation and Coordination is held at a particularly difficult moment of our history. I could have seized this occasion to congratulate us for the relative, formal diplomatic successes we have attained in our relations with the EEC, the United States, Canada, Japan, and the northern countries. However, I

prefer to take a different course, pointing out our obvious flaws in order to correct our perchant for rhetoric, which has offered an escape from direct confrontation with our problems.

I want to stress the seriousness of the problems that today threaten our political and social stability, and I want to emphasize the arduous tasks that lie ahead. never before has a greater responsibility rested on the shoulders of Latin American leaders. It will be of no help to indulge in self-complacency over our supposed successes while our economic and social reality crumbles before our eyes. The irony of this crisis that today threatens our immediate future can be found in the fact that never before have there been such clear signs of what may yet come to pass, and never before have our governments and peoples been so conscious of the perils that beset us. Therein lies the responsibility we share and the opportunity we have to definitely turn around the role of the permanent mechanism for political consultation and coordination. Therein lies the hope that we can move from the words we have clearly uttered to the action we must forcefully undertake.

As I renew my country's invitation to host the fourth presidential summit of our group next year, I can assure you that you will be welcomed with a fraternal Bolivarian spirit and with the firm optimism that you and I will live up to the demands of the circumstances. It will be so because we feel the same unquenchable passion for our America and because on that predisposition depends our ability to lead our peoples to the just objectives of political stability, economic development, and social well-being.

I must not close these remarks without making a clear and direct reference to four presidents who will no longer be with us at the fourth summit of this group of political consultation and coordination: Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Virgilio Barco, Alan Garcia, and Jose Sarney. They are four illustrious heads of state who have played a decisive role that will be inscribed in the history of Latin America. When they transfer power to those who are elected by the will of their peoples, these four presidents will leave behind a record of exemplary dignity and honesty—a record that the Group of Eight must emulate. Let us keep up the good work, compatriots of Latin America! [applause]

Perez Speaks at Closing Ceremony

PY1410145589 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0229 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Speech by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at the closing ceremony of the third presidential summit of the Group of Eight on 13 October in Ica, Peru—recorded]

[Text] Messrs Presidents: This formal ceremony marks the end of the third presidential summit of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Agreement.

Even the most uninterested observer assessing the final agreements of these three meetings will have to admit that the behavior of the Latin American countries is undergoing a historic and substantial change and that these nations are assuming the responsibility for their great future.

In a Latin America that has become accustomed to dispersed efforts and even, on many occasions, to rivalry and disagreements, it is not easy to reach an agreement like the one the Group of Eight is drawing up in a dynamic and progressive manner.

It is satisfactory—more than satisfactory, even honorable—for those who have been and those who still are members of this group to be able to tell our people and the entire world that these annual meetings, which have been arranged by previous meetings of foreign ministers and other representatives of the group members, are really bringing about an extremely significant change in the behavior of our nations. This change has a goal that is clearly established in this declaration as well as in previous ones: Latin American integration.

But on this occasion we have taken an extremely important step forward. I would say that we have taken a highly significant step forward. We have chosen 1992, which marks the magical 500th anniversary of the encounter of two worlds, the anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first trip to our continent, as the year to present Latin America and the world with a concrete program for Latin American integration that will be designed to achieve goals similar to those achieved by Europe after the two world wars; that is, the creation of the EEC.

We are determined that by the time the EEC completes its definite integration program Latin America will have concretely started along the path we took so long ago and on which we have made so much progress. With the efforts to be made by our foreign, economy, finance, and planning ministers, our decision now is to come up with a systematic Latin American integration program.

I am aware that in Latin America, where democracy has arrived as a way of life rather than as a political system, freedom carried a special meaning and the media has a right to judge our actions and to interpret our statements. However, we all know that unanimity is not feasible. Many will be impatient because after starting this Group of Eight process 3 years ago, we have still not achieved important and definite goals. Others will say that some of our statements reveal that we have only reached partial agreements because a final agreement is not feasible. But to say this would be unfair; it would be a personal opinion to which only friends or enemies of the task being carried out by the Group of Eight are entitled to. But I want to emphatically declare now, on behalf of the seven presidents who have gathered around this table, that if there is something we can feel proud about it is that each and every one of us has made sincere and fruitful effort to reach agreement.

It is impossible to think that we should all think alike. It is absurd to think that we all have the same characteristics. The important thing is that we have learned and will continue to learn to unite the efforts of all Latin American countries and governments.

The important thing is that we are showing our people and the world that we are capable of achieving the integration of Latin America, which is the final goal of this group for agreement and dialogue among seven Latin American countries.

I fully endorse, not only on behalf of my government but also on behalf of the Venezuelan people, the contents of this declaration. It reflects a sincere and fruitful effort to advance along the paths we have decided to take in order to achieve the final goal, Latin America's desideratum, its definite reconciliation with history, its integration.

As I myself said at the opening of this meeting, some may say that we are not satisfied. We will not be satisfied as long as we are not able to achieve concrete goals. But this is a process that the world has experienced, a process that all revolutionary actions that have brought changes for our people, regions, and world have experienced. This is a story of those important events that have brought changes and have led the destiny of the people toward new goals.

We must be impatient. We must regret the fact that most of our clear and resolute declarations of agreement are still nothing but rhethoric and have still not attained their objectives.

But this is a maturation phase of a process that in Europe took centuries and the experience of the terrible holocaust of two world wars. Here we are, full of optimism, sure of ourselves, representing our people with dignity, and aware that we are tools in a historic process that will lead Latin America to its great destiny.

I feel it is my duty to express my gratitude to the founders, creators, and protagonists who had the great idea of creating this Group of Eight, this mechanism of consultation and agreement.

At this meeting we are bidding farewell to the last four founder presidents. Yesterday we bid farewell to President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, President Jaime Lusinchi of Venezuela, and President de la Madrid of Mexico. Today we must say good-bye to President Sanguinetti of Uruguay, President Virgilio Barco of Colombia, President Alan Garcia of Peru, and President Jose Sarney of Brazil. I am proud to say, without exaggeration, that they are four illustrious Latin Americans whose names and background will fill an outstanding page in the history of the Latin American integration process. They are formally leaving the Group of Seven, but they are not giving up their will and determination to continue to support this definite initiative so that Latin America may reach its great destiny. They will continue to collaborate with us and to be exemplary leaders in the Latin American integration process.

With these words I bid you farewell and dare say that I am doing so on behalf of the three presidents who will continue in this group and will meet at the next summit in Venezuela with the four new presidents chosen by their people. This is another important issue: All of us here were sovereignly elected by our people. We represent the Latin America democracy that is being consolidated. This Group of Eight has made a great contribution to this process.

With these words of optimism, faith in the future of Latin America, and solidarity with the presidents who have created and formed part of this group, I end my speech by thanking Peru on all our behalf for generously hosting this meeting in this beautiful and charming city, Ica, and by telling the entire Latin American people that we will fulfill our promises. Let us get to work. [applause]

Peru's Garcia Addresses Closing

PY1410004889 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0223 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Speech by Peruvian President Alan Garcia at the closing of the third summit of the Group of Eight on 13 October in Ica, Peru—live]

[Text] On this occasion a fundamental step forward has been taken in the long and difficult road of Latin America integration. We have reaffirmed the objectives behind which we rallied 2 years ago. I believe that, countering skepticism, we can affirm that with our efforts we have contributed to peace in our continent, to keeping the threat of interventionism out of Central America. We have also contributed to getting the rich of the world to understand that their policies must be more flexible. Furthermore, we have contributed to affirming democracy in Latin America.

We are therefore satisfied that this meeting, celebrated without great ritual and conceit, is a clear and full ratification of what we want to accomplish as Latin Americans. I greet the presence in Peru of the chiefs of state who represent other peoples, and I note that, in this long and striking process of Latin American integration, the men are destined to pass from the stage, but the principles will remain and prevail. We wanted to demonstrate that beyond our passing presence, there exists as a future and destination of our continent, the ideal of integration as the only lasting solution to the serious problems of misery and poverty that our peoples face.

We speak on behalf of the disadvantaged and the poor who must not be forgotten and in the name of the humble who expect solutions to their problems. Because the humble are the ultimate objective of any government and religion, we ask the journalists to carry throughout the continent the message of our hope, the voice of our determination and decision. We are not saying farewell,

as has been said here, because we will continue to struggle for continental integration and unity. That we hold our posts is an absolutely accidental and temporary condition, but what counts is our spiritual conviction. I am sure that the arguments and the voice of Sanguinetti will continue to resound in the South of the continent, as I am sure that Sarney will continue to light, with his sense of aesthetics, the road of integration. I am also sure that those who depart, like Virgilio Barco, will certainly continue to be beacons in the struggle since they have been facing danger in the struggle and have shown courage when it was needed.

I want to thank the presidents for their presence here, and the peoples of all America for their commitment as made on their behalf by their presidents. I want to repeat that we will continue in this struggle that is more demanding that all other responsibilities we have had. Perhaps, what we have learned in our temporary tenure as presidents is that there are greater causes than holding positions of power—spiritual and historical causes that are more important than administrative posts.

Free now of metaphors and myth, free of the rituals and commitments, we have the chance to continue the struggle with no citizenship papers other than those of Latin American citizenship. From now on, we set our eyes on the continental border because we have ovecome concepts that may have restricted us. We consider ourselves only to be Latin American citizens and supporters of the struggle and the cause that you will continue. This meeting has confirmed the continuity of objectives and has set the guideposts of the road.

As has been recalled here, 1992 will not mark a ritual date of discovery, a date of historical celebration, but a commitment to the rediscovery of new horizons for our economic integration. We have affirmed that we have a democratic commitment, and, we have therefore maintained the suspension from participation in our group of a country that, having started to walk down this road with us, should recover its democratic sovereignty so as to again contribute its effort to this fundamental process. These are the conclusions of this meeting: We have confirmed the principles for which we have struggled, seeking justice in the issue of foreign debt; we have confirmed the commitments we assumed in Acapulco and Punta del Este.

In the first paragraphs of the joint communique that has been released, one can read that we considered that the proposals made to date do not fully respond to our aspirations and that we must therefore firmly continue to struggle for total transformation. Those are the goals that affirm our continuity. We are sure indeed that the gentlemen presidents who will continue these summits next year will maintain firmness, serenity, and spiritual conviction in this cause. We in Peru greet the conclusion of this summit with the certainty that those who will succeed us who today depart, will continue, as Latin Americans, the enormous effort and the noble enterprise we set in motion at Acapulco, which might be recalled in the future as a decisive landmark in our continent's history.

As I welcomed you yesterday, I now bid you farewell. Never forget that for its long suffering, history, and poverty, this Peruvian land is even more Latin American, ever more desirous of closing ranks with other peoples in a unique and mighty unity. Thank you very much. [applause]

Lack of Endara Support Criticized

PY1310142889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0344 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Ica (Peru), 12 Oct (EFE)—Eduardo Villarino, representative of Guillermo Endara, presidential candidate in the latest Panamanian elections, regretted today the fact that the Group of Eight did not unanimously support the Panamanian politician, nor did the group openly criticize General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Chief of Panama's defense forces.

"Panama now needs the cooperation and the support of all democratic countries in the world. Europe is now leading in the efforts being made in the world to restore democracy in Panama," Villarino stated.

Villarino made these remarks in a news conference shortly after the end of the 2-day meeting of the presidents of the Group of Eight made up of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Villarino added: "The council of ministers of the Group of 12 in Europe has made some proposals and has carried out actions that by far surpass the actions of the Group of Eight."

However, he praised the presidents of Peru, Alan Garcia, and of Venezuela, Carlos Andres Perez, who "have shown that they have the conscience of true Latin American democrats. The others did not show that they have the same conscience," he said.

"In fact, we must talk about the delay in expressing the region's solidarity with Panama," he said.

Villarino added that Panama's problems stem from the lack of democracy and the "systematic" violation of human rights. He said that problems are not understood and so, "we must go along with the game that is being played by the dictatorship in Panama."

He added that the 3 October coup attempt shows that there is a profound crisis within the "last suport" for Noriega, which is "the Defensive Force."

He added that General Noriega has now issued "war laws," which imply the beginning of a new republic "by wish of the dictator," who calls himself the "leader of the national liberation process."

"Over the past few days Noriega unexpectedly issued a number of repressive measures, including the law of the

three "P's": Bullets [plomo] for the enemy; clubs [palo] for the undecided; and money [plata] for friends," Villarino stated.

Garcia Holds News Conference

PY1210233089 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1900 GMT 12 Oct 89

[News conference held by Peruvian President Alan Garcia with unidentified foreign and domestic journalists in Ica on 12 October—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Garcia]... a mechanism of coordination, and that the visiting presidents have had contact with you to make a previous assessment, but also to greet the foreign journalists who are accredited to this conference. It is to be deplored that the lack of infrastructure has not allowed us to offer more comforts, but naturally we make available all the information necessary for you to fulfill your journalistic work. So I welcome the foreign journalists and the local reporters who are accredited to cover this conference, and I wish that your soujourn here has helped you perform your professional work above all. I am here to answer your questions.

[Reporter] Some repercussions [words indistinct] today arrived a dispatch that [words indistinct].

[Garcia] Well, I would like to take an overall view regarding the illegal traffic of narcotics as we discussed it with Presidents Virgilio Barco and Jaime Paz Zamora 2 days ago. We praised the conviction shown by President Bush in his message, although we still consider his proposal insufficient. Yet, understanding that the drug problem and its threat to humankind encompass a very complex issue, we decided to meet here to coordinate our common viewpoints and to agree on a platform for action to which the U.S. decision might also contribute. We have clearly established that in the face of such a complex topic as drug trafficking, there is no point in talking of large or small donations. We have to make political agreements and to draft programs to attack the problem in all its complex dimensions. From our point of view, this fundamentally has to do with crop substitution and restoration of the economic area the drug trade has distorted in the past 10 years.

Following the message delivered by President Bush I made contact with President Francois Mitterrand, Italian Government head Julio Andreotti, and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. In addition to expressing his conviction in that message, President Bush mentioned the three Latin American countries that are involved in the production and trade of drugs. I contacted these three European chiefs of state in the belief that the problem is general and international in scope and that a strategy in which Europe—the potentially large new drug market—should participate is needed. The strategy cannot be restricted to the United States, no matter how much determination it has, because this will either force the market to shift to Europe or force a political slant to be given to the single participation of the United States in the treatment of the problem. For this reason, I thought it was advisable to convey this concern to the European heads of state.

Incidentally, 2 days ago I received an answer from President Francois Mitterrand, both as president of France and president of the European Economic Community. Mitterrand's message said that my concern was shared and stated that a high level EEC representative would be present at any talks that might be held.

Now, the first step toward a global approach and talks has been taken by inviting President George Bush to talk with the presidents of Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru. This talk should be a direct and sincere dialogue encompassing all the many aspects of drug trafficking and addiction.

In Peru we have a study of hundreds of pages by AID, the U.S. Agency for International Development, for coca crop substitution in the Huallage region, where more than 100,000 hectares are planted with coca by tens of thousands of families. This is a very concrete step, and we have reached an agreement with Bolivia and asked Colombia to jointly make studies of this type so that we can present a common platform at a first talk that might perhaps be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, or in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. We will accept any of these two sites, but we have set a 90-day deadline to have a talk in Latin America with President Bush, taking advantage of his own initiative.

[Reporter] This problem has also been discussed by the Group of Eight. Have you three presidents gathered here considered or dismissed the possibility of a dialogue with the drug traffickers?

[Garcia] We have at no time considered the possibility of a dialogue with the drug traffickers. Particularly, we in Peru are not in favor of such a dialogue because we believe that the drug traffickers are criminals, without any altruistic or political motivation, and they must therefore be repressed through military and police action. No matter how much military power the drug traffickers might have, in no instance would we agree to a dialogue with them. One can have a dialogue with those who have an altruistic motivation or those who are politically mistaken and resort to violence. Here, dialogue to reach pacification is a possibility. But we consider it immoral to even propose a dialogue in the case of those who commit crimes against humankind out of their greed to accumulate money.

[Reporter] How can the Latin American people contribute to Latin American integration? What role do the communications media play in this desire for Latin American integration?

[Garcia] I beg you to ask questions on the big issues first. We have started to talk about drug trafficking and addiction. Is there any journalist who wants to ask questions along this line?

[Reporter] You have mentioned the topic of human rights. This morning President Menem spoke of his amnesty policy for the paramilitary groups...

[Garcia, interrupting] I beg you to exhaust the drug trafficking topic first.

[Reporter] What will the Group of Eight—rather, the Group of Seven—declare regarding drug trafficking?

[Garcia] I understand that so far the most substantive points of the proposals made by the three presidents just 48 hours ago are being put together. The issue is complex, and it requires specific treatment of the aspects of drug addiction. We understand that demand is the origen of this problem, and, as President Sanguinetti said, the root of that demand is the personal and spiritual dissatisfaction of the great societies. We have a civilization that lives on stimulants, [as heard] such as, cocaine, hashish, cannabis, which are only more potent stimulants than those we use daily, such as, coffee, tobacco, and alcohol. Ours is a civilization hooked on stimulants. Perhaps, a profound cultural transformation, a cultural revolution that goes beyond what has so far been proposed, will bring the final solution to the current human demand for stimulants.

[Reporter] Mr President, despite a previous technical meeting of foreign ministers in Cartagena, why has the meeting of presidents here not managed to draw a specific joint plan to cope with the drug problem, forcing them to call for another meeting on 20 November?

[Garcia] Mr Abraham Lama, you have to take into consideration the fact that when an invitation to a dialogue is extended, the agenda of the dialogue cannot be published in the newspapers. We are inviting the U.S. President—who through White House spokesmen seems to have accepted the initiative—to have a talk. But, one cannot force a person to respond to proposals made through the press. Out of a minimum of courtesy with and respect for a person who is invited, the overall platform of the three countries should first be discussed with the person invited. It would be very impolite to present all arguments through newspapers, publicly, because then the face-to-face dialogue would serve no purpose. I want it to be clearly understood that we reserve arguments and proposals for the moment when one of the great protagonists in this issue that is of such a great interest to humankind can sit at a table with us.

[Reporter] It is not clear to me whether an EEC representative will come for that meeting.

[Garcia] What we have done is to directly invite President Bush since in his message to the U.S. people he alluded to the three countries, and he said that he would meet with the three countries in the next few months. We have accepted that suggestion, and we decided to extend an invitation to have a dialogue with us, possibly in Cartagena de Indias or in Santa Cruz de la Sierra as I have said before. Up until now, we do not know whether an EEC representative will come, but President Mitterrand has expressed his good will to send such a representative of the highest level at the EEC. I understand that this representative might be a head of state. However, for the time being, our invitation has been extended only to President Bush, saying, as we did, that we would receive the participation of an EEC representative with great satisfaction, so as to have an international approach to the problem.

[Reporter] Are you going to take the specific step of directly inviting a European participant to attend the talk?

[Garcia] It would be desirable that Latin America—through these three countries—the United States, and Europe together draft a comprehensive platform contemplating economic and repressive aspects of drug trafficking. Now, to have a realistic dialogue, we have to go by steps. If we begin by inviting more participants, we might end up having just another ineffective assembly.

[Reporter] Mr President, what you propose is a comprehensive revolution in the treatment of the drug issue. This will possibly take many years to be implemented. However, there is an immediate concern over the destruction of coca plantations. This matter has at some time been proposed as some kind of sale of coca leaves to the United States. Is this proposal still valid?

[Garcia] No. Among the hypotheses that have been raised, which have to consider the reality of the existence of hundreds of thousands of families who misuse the land only to meet the demand by people in the industrialized countries, was the possibility that the rich countries buy the coca production. This is not my hypothesis. I believe in a gradual but rapid crop replacement. As I anticipated, I am originating an idea; there is a quite through study by the AID, the U.S. agency, on the Huallaga Valley which is the main producer of coca leaves. This study is quite serious, and I believe it can be implemented with cooperation. The proposal to sell coca leaves to the countries that consume cocaine is not mine.

[Reporter] Why hasn't Peru yet launched an offensive against drug trafficking as Colombia has? Don't you believe that this would be a positive move by Peru?

[Garcia] What draws your attention to the offensive in Colombia is its military aspect and the aggressive apparatus of the drug traffickers. However, you must realize that the situations there and here are completely different. We have tens of thousands peasants and farmers who plant coca. Fortunately we do not have drug traffickers, and even less, cartels that meddle in the country's economic and political life, cartels that confront the state. The situations are quite different. Here we do not need aircraft, rockets, or large troop deployments. Since there are no drug trafficking cartels here, the political institutions have not been attacked in an attempt to undermine the state. So, our struggle is economic in nature; we need an economic intepretation of the problem.

The problem in Peru is indeed different, and I believe you are quite wrong in saying that Peru has not launched on offensive against drug trafficking. Of course, long ago we initiated the offensive by deploying hundreds and thousands men in the Huallaga Valley, where the job becomes difficult because of its remoteness. In fact, it is some sort of Vietnam of drugs. But we have decidedly initiated that offensive, with the scant resources we have available. Nobody can truthfully say that we have not initiated the repression of coca-leaf production.

[Questions indistinct]

[Garcia] Oh, I have enough time. Everyone will have his turn.

[Reporter] You have talked about the conference among the three coca-producing countries. However, as in any enterprise, whether legal or illegal, there are different aspects. The basic aspect here is distribution. There are countries...[changes thought] Mexico specifically is a drug-distributing country, illegally at that. So why hasn't Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari been invited to the talk as you have invited President Bush?

[Garcia] Look, to reach specific conclusions, one has to focus and concentrate specifically on the problems. Just as there are countries through which the drug transits—and we have just talked about it with the Mexican president at the Group of Eight meeting—there are countries that are producers of what are know as chemical precursors of drug. If we begin by inviting everyone, we are going to end up in a huge assembly. So we have to begin with the most specific end of this business.

There are two countries—Bolivia and Peru—where, it is said, 90 or 85 percent of coca leaves are produced. There is a country where cartels chemically transform this raw material and sell it. So let us first focus on this problem with the great consumer or consumer countries. We can later expand the international surveillance to the manufacturers of chemical precursors in order to interdictf the illegal trafficking of chemical agents for the production of narcotics.

[Reporter] Mr President, you have twice mentioned the scarcity of resources to fight drug trafficking. In the past the United States has been criticized for offering resources to Peru. Will you take this message to the summit with President Bush?

[Garcia] No. Look, I am president of a country with a high sense of dignity. I have not criticized as being small the amount of funds that it has been said will be donated to the three countries. In fact, I contend that this is not a matter of offering donations or alms. This is a problem that calls for political coordination, joint planning, and joint economic substitution, since there is coresponsibility among the states where coca is produced and where drugs are consumed. So, at no time have I said that the assistance to be extended to Peru is small. That would place me in a position unworthy of the president of a country with a high sense of dignity.

[Reporter] Would you then admit that since the United States is the largest consumer of drugs, it should provide more resources for the fight against drug trafficking?

[Garcia] That naturally flows as a necessary consequence of what we are saying, but our decision is to make proposals when we can have a direct dialogue with the person we have invited to talk.

[Reporter] Drugs have become the main subject of talk these days. What other important subjects have been discussed?

[Garcia] Since we have talked about illegal drug trafficking, let's also talk about the illicit financial trafficking. Both kinds of trafficking are destroying our societies. The difference is that the financial trafficking is destroying the societies in the south while the industrialized societies accumulate more resources. This second topic is just as important as the first inasmuch as the impoverishment of our society drives our peasants to coca production.

In my view, this is the underlying issue: The financial and economic flow in the world continues to be wholly asymmetric, but when it comes to the problem of the impoverishment of the South the rich countries do not have the same sharp attitude as they have toward drug trafficking.

I tried to rapidly explain it yesterday: The lending of new money just to service old debts does not finance the production of real goods. It is not productive investment capital; it only yields interest. It promotes impoverishment in the southern countries, and it accumulates interest on paper in the rich countries. So the world capitalist system has lost its role of boosting the production of goods because the impoverished countries have no market for them. And since the South's markets are exhausted, the industrialized countries are seeking markets in the East, trying to convert the GDR, the PRC, and the Soviet Union into consumers of the West's high technology. And the dramatic paradox may yet come to pass that Latin American debts are collected in order to inject them as investment capital into the markets of the East. It seems to me that this lies at the bottom of the perestroyka, the lessening of tensions. And I believe that in view of this, we in Latin America should adopt a more solid, firm, and demanding position for the solution of our mammoth foreign-debt problem so that, once this problem is solved, Latin America can be incorporated into the great world market that the capitalist system needs to rebuild at this time.

[Reporter] (?Will that position be included in) the joint declaration that will be released?

[Garcia] Sometimes the solid positions become weak when the problems are not confronted collectively. And this is the great ability of international capitalism: To isolate positions by treating them individually. In the Brady Plan, which represents an advance, the advance must be distinguished from what is a deceitful offer. The

Brady Plan recognized for the first time that the debt is no longer worth what is written in the books and that its value can be reduced. Very well, this opens the way for us to continue demanding that the debt be reduced even more than the 80 percent the Brady Plan says it is worth now. Thus, eventually, our demands should be accepted.

On the other hand, the Brady Plan is also an enticement for countries to enter into bilateral treatments of their debts. So, granting that the debt is now worth less than its book value, the Brady Plan stimulates the debtor countries to go for bilateral negotiations, letting each country run for its life.

I believe, Miss, that we are living under a dramatic danger at this time. When we see that Eastern societies are collapsing, the bureaucratic and centralist countries are crumbling, we attest to the hegemonic triumph of the neoliberal theory. However, when we look at this from the South, it seems to convince many governments that each has nothing else. They can but run for their life by seeking a better deal through a bilateral treatment.

I believe that this is very serious danger in the coming years: There is a clear rebirth of neoliberalism in the world. With the collapse of Eastern societies and the transformation of the centralist states, like Poland, the interpretation by poor countries is that there is nothing else to do in the face of the hegemonic bloc, the IMF, the neoliberalism, and that the only thing left to do is to negotiate separately to see what can be gained. I believe that down that road, the only thing that will be gained is to push the Brady Plan to the back burner, and to announce again that the debt is again worth 100 percent of its book value. It was a mistake to have said that it could be discounted 20 percent as the Brady Plan propounded. So, what I contend, as I have been doing for the past 4 years, is that only by a determined, firm position can the debtor countries, particularly those of Latin America, keep forcing changes in the international economic system.

[Reporter] Mr President...

[Garcia, interrupting] When one is a member of a group, one does not expect all his proposals to be accepted. I believe that would be a childish attitude: to join a group just to have everyone say yes to what one proposes. One has to see how one can participate and share in what the members of a group think. Don't forget, Mr Journalist, and I ask you to notice that what has now been said about the foreign debt would have sounded heretical, brazen, and absurd 4 years ago. I remember that in 1984 and 1985, with honorable exceptions, it was very difficult to hear demands being made on the capitalist system and complaints being voiced against the rich countries.

[Reporter] Have you discussed the possibility of talks with socialist countries?

[Garcia] This subject is obviously less important that the problems we are forced to discuss with the rich countries of the West, which are creditors of 80 or 90 percent of our overall debt. In one paragraph of the declaration, you will find a reference to the subject you just brought up, but our major problem and our great hopes obviously rest with the West at this time to solve a problem that dramatically links us to the industrialized North.

[Reporter] There are serious discrepancies among the presidents attending this meeting regarding the foreign debt issue. Is it because of the different situations prevailing in each country?

[Garcia] We have a common stance. No country can pay what it is being asked to pay. We all know this. People know it. The labor unions know it. Therefore, that is our stance.

A few years ago some countries made an effort to pay. Nowadays, everybody knows they cannot pay and they are struggling to change the payment conditions. This is the basic issue that we all share.

The fact that some countries resort to the Brady Plan, that others seek other alternatives, or that others choose not to pay a debt that they consider to be unfair—at least until conditions change or payments are reduced—are simply different shades of a common stance. The important point is that we are gradually verifying that no country is able to pay the debt in contracted, a debt that has grown only because of interest.

I will reiterate some dramatic but realistic figures: 10 years ago Latin America owed $190 billion. It paid $289 billion by December 1988—that is 10 years—and it still owes $430 billion. In the past 10 years Latin America has reduced its per capita consumption dramatically by 2 to 3 percent a year. In the past 10 years Latin America reduced its imports, seeking to spend fewer dollars. It increased its exports and devalued its currencies to obtain dollars with which to pay the debt.

In the past 10 years Latin America grew only 1 percent per year, and it has used that 1 percent, plus an additional 4 percent of its GNP, to pay the debt.

Therefore, under these conditions, 10 years later we find that we owe more, produce less, and it is impossible to pay our debt. We all know this. It has cost us 10 years to understand it. However it is an experience that constitutes the base for our common stance.

[Reporter] Has progress been made in this field since the Punta del Este summit?

[Garcia] Would there have been a Brady Plan if we had not met in Acapulco or in Punta del Este? One of James Brady's advisers published an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES stating that the Brady Plan was announced in September 1985 to prevent the dissemination of the Peruvian attitude of unilaterally reducing its debt payments.

Who knows if the Acapulco and Punta del Este meetings have not led the creditors to acknowledge that the debt is not worth its face value and that it must be reduced?

Therefore, there has been progress. Who knows if next year we will be speaking of reducing the debt by 50 percent and not just the 20 percent that we now seek?

You see, the fact is that not only are we unable to pay and that we are negotiating to pay less, but the creditors also know that they will not be able to collect their money if they insist on their claims.

Therefore, if the United States and the Soviet Union are heading toward disarmament, why can't there be a financial disarmament between the rich and poor? I think that economic trends will follow this line.

[Reporter] Mr President, why hasn't Panama been definitively expelled from this group, and will the Group of Eight expand?

[Garcia] Panama as a country, independent of its past administrations, was a founder member of the Group of Eight. No country can be expelled. This is a term that would offend the citizenry of a country. We simply ratified the suspension of Panama indefinitely until Panama is governed by a democratically elected government. That was our decision.

[Reporter] [passage indistinct] the OAS?

[Garcia] We are preparing a proposal in which we state that the OAS is an important forum or mechanism for hemispheric dialogue but which must include the presence of Cuba and other countries which are yet not members.

[Reporter] Will the Group of Eight expand?

[Garcia] I hope so. This is the last year in which I will attend a meeting of the Group of Eight, which I helped to create. However, I hope this group will lead annual and periodical meetings of all Latin American presidents. I have maintained this hope since 1985. I hope that Latin America will annually coordinate some kind of collegial executive branch to make important decisions. The Group of Eight is the beginning of this, and I am sure that it will expand in the future.

However, at a continental level, the issues cannot run as fast as for a country, a people, or a political process. A continent requires much longer terms and we must be patient. Let us go to another subject now.

[Reporter] Human rights. Two of the main issues in Latin American life are democratization and human rights. President Menem has recently pardoned military officers and terrorists who were serving prison sentences. There is also a conflictive situation in Peru regarding some military officers who are being tried for murders committed in jails. Are you willing to pardon those military officers to pacify the situation? This is my first question.

Second, the Peruvian image through the international media is very bad because of a lack of information. In contrast with Acapulco and Punta del Este, which are holiday resorts with multimillion dollar infrastructures, the city of Ica represents thousands of Latin American cities. Therefore, what is your administration doing to truthfully report on Peruvian reality?

[Garcia] Well I believe in freedom of the press, and I think my administration has defended this freedom. Although some alarming or exaggerated reports about Peru are sometimes heard, I think that the overall balance of news on which the public draws its conclusions is positive. I completely trust in freedom of expression and I think that there is an overall positive balance from it. Anyway, freedom of the press is a precondition for civilized and democratic life.

I find your first question very difficult to answer. I am the host for the visiting presidents and I cannot easily give an opinion on the political decisions of their countries. However, I can tell you that several trials for human rights violations during the fight against terrorism are underway in Peru. These are trials for the human rights violations and excesses that were committed during a democratic administration.

I think that the situation was worse in other countries. These violations and atrocities occurred during the de-facto administrations. In the case of Peru, we want the law to be implemented because we think that if we are flexible on this occasion we could be opening the way to repetitions of the excesses.

The circumstances and political realities of our country are different. I suppose that each president knows how to solve the problems of his own country. However, in the case of Peru, we will continue with the trials.

[Reporter] Mr President, has any member country formally requested the expulsion of Panama from the group?

[Garcia] Do you think that after coming out from a meeting with six presidents I could be so indiscrete as to tell?

[Reporter] But was the issue discussed?

[Garcia] I will tell you that the possibility was perhaps mentioned but I cannot remember who proposed it.

[Reporter] Speaking of the possible expulsion of Panama, was the addition of Ecuador, Bolivia, and Chile to the Group of Eight discussed. Anyway, the group has only seven members and not eight. Is it true that a year ago you opposed the proposal that Ecuador join because Peru has problems with this country?

Second, about Paraguay...

[Garcia, interrupting] Let me answer the first question. I have told Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja that it is important for Ecuador to join the Group of Eight. I am sure that not only Ecuador, but other countries will gradually join this mechanism.

The main issue is that the member presidents first want to obtain total harmony within the group. Until the eight

of us are able to adopt substantial joint stances regarding international issues other countries will not be able to join since it would increase the differences of opinion and make it more difficult to adopt common stances.

This question is brought up every year. You think it is original, but I have been asked this question 2 years in a row, so I would like to tell you that every year the member presidents discuss this subject, and we always arrive at the conclusion that we have yet not consolidated the consensus mechanism that would permit other countries to join the group.

[Reporter] First, what has the group discussed about regional disarmament? Second, which are the gains and losses of this meeting?

[Garcia] As the host country and a founder member of the Group of Eight I have no negative impression of this meeting. I am absolutely satisfied with the fact that it has allowed three Latin American countries to invite a great world power to participate in a serious and public discussion on the drug trafficking problems.

I think that this meeting has marked our consolidation. In the Spanish language we say that the third try is the last one. This is our third meeting. Our first meeting could have simply been an anecdote, the second could have been a ritual, the third meeting has resulted in its consolidation despite the fact that no great proposals were made. This is important.

For 170 years each of our countries worked alone. The fact that 7 or 8 countries meet for 3 years in a row marks the beginning of a permanent Latin American doctrine. This not only concerns the Group of Eight, this is an essential historical instrument of consensus. We presidents met in Manaus to discuss the Amazon issue. The Andean Pact presidents meet twice a year. The presidents of Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay also meet. Our bilateral contacts are multiplying. Whether we want it or not, a Latin American doctrine on the foreign debt, the drug problem, the Amazon region, and other subjects, is being born. This will take longer, perhaps 5, 10, or 15 years. However, the important point is that we are making historical progress, therefore there is no negative balance from this meeting.

[Reporter] Did you discuss regional disarmament?

[Garcia] This is a very important subject. I think we have not made substantial progress in this field. We are still spending a lot of our resources on security. I think it is a subject on which we are making very slow progress. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] I simply see the following: Your proposal to adopt a common stance regarding the foreign debt has been rejected because the presidents of Argentina and Mexico have expressed opinions different from yours. I would like you to discuss this subject.

[Garcia] I said that we are all on the way to reducing our debt. This was the original Peruvian proposal in 1985 when we said that we would pay our debt with only 10 percent of our income from exports. That meant reducing our debt payments.

I am proud to say that Mr Brady then followed this path, although somewhat slowly. Each of the presidents who is negotiating according to the Brady Plan is also following this path. Yet this is not enough.

It is immature to say: either you give me all I want or I will disagree with everything. I believe we are making historical progress. The debt problem will eventually be solved when it is reduced to its real market value. We are inevitably on that path.

No country can pay its debt. We can make all possible efforts, we can renegotiate, sign all the contracts and letters of intent we want, but after 10 years look at the balance. In 10-years time we will find that those of us—who you say are not being taken into account now—have proposed something original.

[Reporter] Mr President, in face of the failure of the Andean Pact, do you think that the Group of Eight is an effective alternative for Latin American development?

[Garcia] You are making an unfair and incorrect statement. You spoke of the failure of the Andean Pact. I can categorically tell you that the Andean Pact has not failed. This pact could have promoted greater trade between its member countries, but there is an explanation to this.

The Andean Pact was a vehicle to use the foreign debt. As each member country contracted larger debts with Western banks, they were also using those resources in Andean integration. At a given time, trade within the Andean Pact increased, but when the debt situation grew, trade among the Andean Pact countries was reduced.

However, in realistic terms, in relation to its economic capacity, the Andean Pact continues to be a reality. I think that it is very unfair and incorrect to say that the Andean Pact has failed.

[Reporter] Mr President, the Mexican delegation demanded the preparation of a common procedure to deal with the foreign debt. Has this common procedure been prepared?

[Garcia] Your journalists have different positions. Mr Chirino asked me if Peru demanded a common stance. Now you ask me if Mexico demanded a common stance. The truth is that none of us presidents has demanded a common procedure to deal with the debt. We adopted a collective attitude, which naturally includes bilateal relations.

However, as far as I know, no proposal has been made to adopt a common procedure regarding the debt issue.

[Reporter] Could you tell what was decided during the meeting about environment preservation?

[Garcia] We have ratified the Manaus Declaration which was signed by the nine Amazon region presidents.

[Reporter] There is a wave of terrorism in Peru which is covering the country with blood. Everything indicates that the municipal elections will be frustrated. Politicians from different parties have requested guarantees—at least for the candidates—for the elections. What can you say about this?

[Garcia] I will answer this question tomorrow because this basically is a national subject and this is a Group of Eight news conference. However, I do not rule out the possibility that the attacks you mentioned, and which were widely covered by the media, point to the objective you said, that is, to gain publicity and to spoil the image of this presidential summit.

[Reporter] [passage indistinct] ... a draft copy of a 13-point agreement which was not signed. Why wasn't a longer declaration issued and why was it only restricted to the invitation of President Bush? In all, I would like you to discuss the conflicting points on the two subjects pending from the meeting? [question as heard]

[Garcia] Well, to speak clearly, we presidents and politicians do not like reiterative declarations. If you analyze the draft declaration you will see why we decided in favor of something more concrete and political.

[Reporter] About the two subjects, what were the conflicting points among the member countries...

[Garcia, interrupting] There were no conflicting points. The fact is that we did not want to release a three-page document that would be totally repetitive.

[Reporter] What do the presidents think of the establishing a Latin American economic community?

[Garcia] This morning the president of the Latin American Parliament gave us a draft treaty for the creation of a Latin American economic community. He also proposed that 1992—which will be a crucial year for Latin America and the consolidation of Europe—must be our goal.

This proposal was well received by the presidents who will study it. We understand that dates and objectives must be set, not just as a symbol or ritual. You will soon learn of projects we are about to launch. We have instructed our economy and planning ministers to prepare a program to reduce border customs fees by 1992. This will be a decisive step toward the so called Latin American economic community.

[Reporter] Could this issue also include a common treatment of the foreign debt problem?

[Garcia] Of course. Part of the debt is what we call the intra-Latin American debt which must be treated in the same intelligent and practical manner as we ask from the international organizations. It must serve to strengthen the economic integration process in Latin America.

For example, Peru and other Latin American creditor countries are thinking of using these resources in what economists call relending. This means that debt payments should be re-invested in the development projects we need. Peru and Brazil have already made a concrete proposal.

However, it is true that the intra-Latin American debt could turn into a tool for the Latin American economic community.

[question indistinct]

[Garcia] We have agreed on that, and we are aware of the legal and technical problems. If we are talking about the free transit of books and culture among our countries, we must also allow the free transit of Latin American peoples. When a citizen from a Latin American country requests a visa to travel to another Latin American country, the sense of integration is flagrantly contravened. This means that when a country requests a police visa from a foreign citizen it presumes that the foreign citizen is guilty of something.

Our objective is to suspend this requisite at least in our eight countries. I am sure that during this meeting we will decide on a measure pointing toward this objective. We cannot decide on the banishment of passports and visas overnight in our eight countries. However, I do think we will make substantial progress toward this goal.

[Reporter] Peruvian Foreign Minster Larco Cox proposed at the United Nations Assembly that our coca leaves should be purchased [not further explained]. At the beginning of your speech you said you do not share this opinion. Does this mean that the Peruvian Government has different stances on a same subject?

[Garcia] No, when Mr [break in transmission] when quoting some proposals I made and which were published in some U.S. newspapers, he included the option of purchasing coca leaves in his list of economic proposals. This does not mean that there are differences or conflicts in the Peruvian Government. It is not an important subject.

[Reporter] But this shows different points of view.

[question indistinct]

[Garcia] No, not at all.

[Reporter] They refer to different production phases. Like for example Colombia's objective...

[Garcia, interrupting] Naturally, that is why on 20 November we will hold a final meeting to establish the connection between the problems of production and marketing. We must adopt a common base from which to fight together.

[Reporter] Will foreign experts attend this meeting?

[Garcia] No, this meeting will be held among experts from Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia.

Thank you very much, and I hope your visit has been satisfactory.

Andean Foreign Ministers To Meet 20-21 Oct

PY1410031689 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The foreign ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia will meet here in La Paz on 20-21 October to discuss actions designed to promote Andean integration in various areas and to prepare the agenda to be discussed in Ecuador in December by the Andean presidents.

Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora will open the meeting of Andean foreign ministers.

A Bolivian Foreign Ministry report states that meeting of the Andean foreign ministers council was decided at the Andean presidential summit held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in May 1989. At that time, the Andean presidents decided to play a decisive role in spearheading the Andean integration process. [passage omitted]

Cuba

Havana Notes President Bush's Remarks on Panama

FL1310235489 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] The White House will use more espionage procedures in the application of its policy toward Panama. This was agreed upon by President George Bush and the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee.

During a televised press conference today, Bush did not rule out the possibility of using force against Panama if the situation is favorable to the United States. For this purpose, the procedures for taking action are being reviewed to see if we can do it better next time, Bush said in reference to the failed military coup of 3 October.

Official sources have confirmed that the U.S. Government is considering new plans against Noriega which would be of a more aggressive nature and would provide greater support to those who conspire against the chief of the Panamanian Defense Forces.

Document Denounces TV Marti at OIRT Meeting

FL1310222489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] A document that denounces the U.S. Government's project of cultural and ideological aggression, comprised of the enemy television station, was presented by Cuba during the final segment of the 30th session of the Radio Programming Commission of the International Radio and Television Organization, OIRT.

[Begin recording] [Josefa Bracero, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television, identified by caption] Cuba will respond without hesitation to the provocation of the anti-Cuban television station and there will be no yielding to the U.S. policy of blackmail, prepotence, and aggression.

In reference to this unprecedented situation in international relations, which our country has tried every means to avoid, Cuba has maintained an inalterable policy of openness and negotiation. Thus, we have called for the solidarity and support that is necessary in response to the violation of international principles, self-determination, and the right to be and act with full sovereignty within the framework of mutual respect and coexistance. [end recording]

During the 3-day meeting, the participants discussed and analyzed 13 topics related to work, content, guidelines, and the direction that the OIRT commission will follow in the future. Eight draft resolutions were also presented and unanimously approved. Some of the principle tasks that were stressed during the meeting were the reporting on and support for the disarmament initiatives of peace-loving forces, guaranteeing a high level of quality transmissions, and the exchange of information on relevant events in the socio-political, cultural, sports, and economic life of the peoples.

A new commission president and three vice presidents were elected during the meeting.

Joint Commission Meeting To Open in Johannesburg

FL1410003889 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0009 GMT 14 Oct 89

[From "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] The joint commission for the verification of the southwest Africa agreement will hold a special meeting on 16 and 17 October in Johannesburg, South Africa. This was reported in Luanda by the Angolan foreign minister.

The Angolan Foreign Ministry communique indicates that during the meeting, the participants will analyze the fulfillment of the recommendations made during the previous meeting held here in Havana.

Concern Expressed Over Resolution 435 Violations

FL1410171389 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1207 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Cuba has reiterated that the UN Security Council is fully responsible for the application of Namibia's independence plan.

In an interview granted to PRESA LATINA, Cuban Foreign Vice-Minister Ricardo Alarcon said that, to date, the preparation for the elections has not been free or just. Alarcon said he held extensive diplomatic negotiations for the Namibian peace process with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and with (Yves Patier), chairman of the UN Security Council, to whom he expressed Cuba's concerns over the violations of UN Resolution 435.

The Cuban representative explained that, despite some progress, from the very beginning, there have been serious problems that were discussed with the Security Council as well as with the South Africans.

Haiti

Demonstrators Seek Removal of President Avril

FL1310185089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Excerpts] [Announcer, in French] The demonstration against insecurity and the high cost of living scheduled for yesterday in Gonaives could not take place. [passage omitted]

[Begin correspondent's recording] [Passage omitted] At 1300, the military was obliged to return to the barracks.

At 1310, when the demonstrators learned that the military had returned to the barracks, they took to the streets to demonstrate. At 1400, when the military learned the demonstrators were out in the streets demonstrating, they went after them, pressured them, and forced them to disperse.

The demonstrators say a number of former uprooters [dechouqeurs] have received large sums of money from the general [not further identified] to crush their movement. Now, they say that they are going to rise up not only against insecurity and the high cost of living but also to tell the country that it is high time things changed in Haiti. They add that the general has to uproot his cassava plants and move off the land, so to speak, so that they can install a civilian government. They also said they had not gone into the streets to attack the military or to cause disorder. They said they had taken to the streets to defend a just cause. [Passage omitted]

According to the demonstrators, a former uprooter many times fired a weapon given him by the Army in the Jubile area at around 0130 on 10 October.

They say that one way or another, their dream must become a reality. They say that if they have to, they will rise up every day and block all activity—so that Haiti will be able to catch a breath of (?good air) in regard to democracy.

We are going strike even harder, they say.

They added that they are going to bar the way of all the general's partisans, who go to meet with him every week. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Resolve To Continue Protests

FL1310184589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Excerpts] More than 200 people took to the streets in Gonaives yesterday morning at approximately 1100 in response to the call for a demonstration against insecurity, the high cost of living, and corruption in the public administration. [passage omitted]

Armed soldiers combed all over Gonaives and activities were paralyzed. Inside the sections of Raboteau, Jubile Blanc, and Lot Bo Kanal, the population had begun demonstrating very early in the morning.

According to what the demonstrators themselves told a radio correspondent from Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, flaming barricades were erected very early at several intersections in town, and the night [of 9 October] was punctuated by bursts of automatic weapon fire here and there. [passage omitted] Here is a report from our correspondent in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, who went to Gonaives to cover this event.

[Begin correspondent Milceus Gaspard recording] [Passage omitted] On the night of 9 October, opportunist uprooters [dechouquers] and armed civilians—professional spies—were firing weapons in Raboteau and Jubile and asking demonstrators to remain home. This was because they had allegedly received (?vehicles), motorcycles, zombie checks [public administration checks made out to nonexistent employees], and good jobs in the de facto government. The demonstrators added that tires had begun being burned at diverse intersections at approximately midnight, despite the fact that there was shooting during the night. [passage omitted]

Thus, the demonstrators are determined to have the schools remain closed in Gonaives and to continue to burn tires and to take to the streets until they solve the problems of insecurity, repression, and the high cost of living. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Costa Rica

Coverage of Visit by Mexican President Salinas

Discusses Panama in Group of 8

PA1310204589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1810 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 13 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari said today during his visit to Costa Rica, where he is keeping a busy schedule, that Panama will not be excluded from the "Group of Eight," but will be "indefinitely suspended."

Salinas, who is on his first official visit to Costa Rica, arrived in San Jose last night from Peru where he attended the "Group of Eight" (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela) meeting.

The Panamanian Government has been excluded from the meetings of the Group of Eight, which it helped found, since February 1988 when President Eric Arturo Delvalle was dismissed after he failed in his attempt to remove General Manuel Antonio Noriega as military commander.

On his arrival in Costa Rica, Salinas de Gortari expressed his satisfaction with the "positive results" of the meeting of the most influential Latin American consultative group, which ended yesterday in the southern city of Ica (Peru).

The presidents of the "Group of Eight" set the year 1992 as their goal for beginning an effective integration of Latin America, coinciding with the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America and the 200 years of political independence of the subcontinent from Spain and Portugal.

Salinas also greeted "the Costa Rican people," who this year are celebrating the centennial of their democracy, which he termed "an example not only for Latin America but also for the entire world."

Carlos Salinas, surrounded by heavy security, began his official activities today by placing floral wreaths before the "national monument," which commemorates the struggle of the Central American people against the U.S. filibusters who invaded Nicaragua during the last century, and before the time of Mexican hero Miguel Hidalgo, in a downtown plaza of the Costa Rican capital.

After placing the floral wreaths, the Mexican president went to the presidential house where he will meet twice throughout the day with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

Salinas will also meet privately with Jesus Cabrera, Mexican ambassador to San Jose, and will attend a reception in his honor at noon.

The presidents will review Mexican - Costa Rican relations, and will discuss topics such as development, democracy, deforestation, disarmament, drugs, and the foreign debt.

They will also analyze the Central American peace process and the Panamanian crisis. The presidents will sign an agreement on extradition, another on cooperation to fight drug trafficking and drug dependency, and will exchange notes related to the operation of Costa Rican Airlines (LACSA) and Mexican airlines.

Salinas, who will leave at approximately 1700 (2300) to return home, is accompanied by Fernando Solana, secretary of foreign affairs; Andres Caso Lombardo, secretary of communications and transportation; and Attorney General Enrique Alvarez Del Castillo.

It was officially announced that the Mexican president will not hold a news conference, and that only a joint declaration will be issued at the end of his visit.

Signs Agreements

PA1410034889 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0030 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Report by Hilda Picado from Juan Santamaria Airport—live]

[Text] The 2-day visit to our country by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari concluded a few minutes ago. The Mexican president arrived yesterday at approximately 1000, and today he attended various activities, strictly following the schedule so as to participate in all that was planned. The president placed wreaths at national monuments and had lunch with Mexican Embassy personnel, executive branch officials, and special guests.

In the afternoon, the Mexican president signed several treaties and bilateral cooperation agreements at the Foreign Ministry. Among the documents signed, which might have more importance at an international level, are an extradition treaty and an agreement on legal assistance in penal matters between Costa Rica and Mexico.

The Mexican and Costa Rican presidents signed a joint communique dated 13 October 1989 on the occasion of Salinas' visit to Costa Rica. The communique expresses their viewpoints regarding the Panamanian and the Nicaraguan situations. Concerning Panama, the communique reads: Regarding the Panamanian case, the two presidents confirm that the Panamanian people are the only ones who can solve their problems exercising their inalienable right to self-determination.

The presidents expressed their concern over the grave deterioration of the human rights situation in Panama, and over the fact that Panama is moving away from democratic ideals. The Costa Rican president expressed his satisfaction with the decision made by the presidents

of the Rio Group, which confirms the indefinite suspension of Panama from the group as long as the current situation prevails.

The presidents analyzed the development of the Central American peace process and noted their pleasure at the results of the Central American summit held in Tela, Honduras in August. The presidents noted the importance of the steps taken by the area countries to fulfill the joint plan for the demobilization, repatriation, or voluntary relocation of the Nicaraguan resistance and other irregular forces in the area. The presidents also noted the actions taken by the Honduran and Nicaraguan Governments to solve their conflict—over the lawsuit filed by Nicaragua against Honduras at the International Court of Justice—through dialogue and negotiation. The presidents discussed the important steps taken in Nicaragua to attain internal reconcilation in view of the upcoming general elections to be held in Nicaragua in February 1990.

Referring to the negotiations between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Cristiani government, Salinas said:

[Begin Salinas recording] [Words indistinct] It is their decision; it is the decision of President Cristiani's government. We hope they will reach an agreement during the peace talks. [end recording]

This was the Mexican president's statement regarding the progress made on the negotiations between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Cristiani government. The Mexican president said Costa Rica's assistance in the efforts to attain peace in the isthmus is outstanding. He also emphasized the invaluable role played by President Oscar Arias Sanchez in the efforts for peace, harmony, and cooperation among Central American countries.

El Salvador

FMLN Rebels Accuse U.S. of 'Hostile' Policy

PA1510202389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1805 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 15 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] spokesmen, who have arrived in Costa Rica to meet with Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani's delegates on 16 and 17 October, said the U.S. Government is still hostile to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Prior to resuming the talks, which were started in Mexico City 1 month ago and which will continue in San Jose this week, guerrilla commanders will meet with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias at his home.

Cesar Marti, information official for the rebels, told ACAN-EFE today that the rebels are disappointed with the policy of President George Bush because they expected him to take a more practical stance than that of his predecessor, Ronald Reagan.

Not only did President Bush disappoint the rebels, but, to confuse international opinion, the new U.S. Administration has been sending a "wrong message" with the U.S. Government's military aid for the Salvadoran Government.

Insisting on the need for a concerted effort among all the forces in conflict in his country, Marti said that, while most of the nations in conflict are abandoning war and seeking peace, the U.S. Government is going in the opposite direction.

Regarding the situation in his country, the rebel leader said: "It is impossible to do things unilaterally."

It is necessary to enforce and obey the accords signed by the five Central American presidents in Esquipulas, Guatemala, and Tela to "agree upon the FMLN's incorporation into Salvadoran political life."

As a good omen for this objective, Marti said that there is in fact a rapprochement "at the rank and file level" with some Christian Democratic Party members. In addition, positive signs have been observed in the Army.

Marti said that, for example, agreement can be found with Christian Democratic politicians who are afraid of a backsliding in the achievements in the fields of agrarian reform and bank nationalization during the previous government.

He added: Something similar is happening to some Army officers who are "suffering because of the war," and who would joyfully receive the announcement of a definite cease-fire.

The plan that the Salvadoran guerrillas will present at the new meeting is basically the same plan they presented at the meeting that took place in Mexico from 13 to 15 September, but the new one explains every single detail, Marti said.

He added: The key issue is still the proposal to reach a cease-fire before 15 November, and the incorporation of the FMLN into El Salvador's political life under effective democratic guarantees to reach an end to the war by 31 January 1990, at the latest.

The FMLN delegation is going to be "very flexible," without going so far as to surrender, in discussing the proposal and "continuing making progress toward peace," the spokesman said.

The guerrilla negotiators will be headed this time by Commanders Joaquin Villalobos, Shafik Handal, Miguel Saenz, Nidia Diaz, and Ana Guadalupe Martinez.

The announced government delegates are Presidency Minister Juan Antonio Martinez, Justice Minister Oscar Alfredo Santamaria, University Rector Hernan Contreras, Deputy Rector David Escobar, and Attorney Abelardo Torres.

The Catholic Church, as mediator in the negotiations, will be represented by Bishop Romeo Tovar Astorga, president of the Salvadoran Episcopal Conference, and San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez.

Frances Vendrell from Spain will be the UN observer at the dialogue, and Hugo de Zela will be observer for the OAS. The two are heading the International Verification and Support Commission for the Central American peace agreements.

The meeting between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government will take place at a convent 15 km north of San Jose. The two delegations will stay there until the meeting ends.

Negotiations Continue Between FMLN, Government

Rebels on Negotiations

PA1410170689 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0047 GMT 12 Oct 89

["Press bulletin" issued by the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) in New York on 10 October—read by announcer]

[Text] An FMLN Political-Diplomatic Commission delegation is currently in the United States to discuss with the OAS and the United Nations the current negotiation process with the Salvadoran Government.

The delegation consists of Salvador Samayoa, Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, and Dr Miguel Saenz. They met with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares in Washington on 5 October. On the afternoon of that same day, the FMLN representatives met with Alvaro de Soto, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's special representative for Central America. (Francis Dendrelle), the assistant chief of the recent UN reconnaissance mission to Central America, and (Rolt Nudson), a member of the mission, also participated in the meeting at UN Headquarters in New York.

In their meetings with both international organizations, the FMLN representatives talked about the participation of the OAS and the United Nations in negotiations between the FMLN and the Salvadoran Government, which is scheduled to begin with a meeting on 16 October in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The participation of representatives of the OAS and UN secretary generals was confirmed for the San Jose meeting.

This meeting will initiate a negotiation process according to regional agreements, which call on the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN to achieve a cease-fire agreement.

In their meetings with international organizations, the FMLN delegation discussed issues such the establishment of UN military observers in El Salvador, and of the International Support and Verification Commission [CIAV]. The FMLN representatives said the CIAV does not play an important role in El Salvador because its main duty is to supervise the demobilization of the Nicaraguan contras. With regard to El Salvador, the Tela agreements state that a cease-fire agreement should be reached between the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN.

In New York, the FMLN delegation also met with representatives of member countries of the UN Security Council, and with representatives of nations that will be sending military observers to Central America, as well as with Latin American representatives.

The FMLN delegation held meetings with representatives from Canada, the USSR, Brazil, Venezuela, Spain, the FRG, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Colombia. [dated] 10 October 1989, New York

2 Colonels Named to Commission

PA1310213789 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said today that there is a positive atmosphere for the dialogue to be held in Costa Rica on Monday, and he disclosed the names of the military men that will advise the governmental commission during that meeting. President Cristiani said that there is a positive and encouraging climate for possible agreements to be reached at the next round of talks in Costa Rica, scheduled for 16 and 17 October.

Cristiani announced that Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade, and Colonel Dionisio Ismael Machuca, the new National Police director, are among the government's advisors to the dialogue commission.

Cristiani said that the government's proposal to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] includes a cease-fire and other points he preferred not to disclose. He added that at this meeting the FMLN will show whether it is really willing to achieve peace.

[Begin Cristiani recording] It is a matter of willingness from the FMLN, which must cease its attacks and all its hostile actions and sabotages. As I said, it is a matter of goodwill. In reality, we do not see any great difficulties. We will see whether the FMLN really wants to achieve peace in El Salvador or if this is simply a strategic move with tactical or propagandistic purposes. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reiterated the Armed Forces support for the dialogue process. He said that the FMLN will show its real position regarding peace, noting that its armed actions during the past few days contradict what it said in Mexico.

[Begin Ponce recording] The Costa Rica meeting will be very important for learning the FMLN's real intentions concerning this new opportunity for a dialogue. In that

regard, I believe that if there is willingness—as the government has shown and the FMLN says—agreements can be reached to achieve peace in our country. [end recording]

Col Vargas on Military's Role

PA1310221889 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade and government representative to the upcoming meeting with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels in Costa Rica, by unidentified reporter; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Good morning, Colonel. We would like to know what role you will play during this peace meeting to be held in San Jose.
[Vargas] First, I would like to send greetings to the YSU listeners. Second, and regarding my role at the meeting, I would like to say that I will be an advisor. I will be an advisor on military matters discussed during the negotiations, during the dialogue to be held in Costa Rica. The role is truly military and the factors to end the hostilities, its repercussions, and the mechanisms will be discussed at the meeting.

[Reporter] Colonel, how does it feel to be searching for peace after having played a role in the military field?
[Vargas] Peace is an aspiration, the supreme aspiration of the people. Being able to contribute to a firm and lasting peace is the sacrifice that any Salvadoran who wants to fulfill the wishes of the people must make. This is something the high command and the government want me to do. As Armed Forces, we never wanted to win the war. All we wanted was to win peace, and we are more than willing to contribute to the achievement of that peace, which is desired by the people.

[Reporter] Colonel, an end to the hostilities involves many things, including granting concessions. Depending on how the talks go, are you willing to make some concessions in order to achieve an end to the hostilities?
[Vargas] In general terms, we could say that an end to hostilities involves a number of mechanisms. What must be emphasized is the will to carry out these mechanisms. To talk about what can or cannot be done would hinder the process. I think that the steps to be taken will be decided on as the process advances. What the people can be sure of —or what all the people who want peace can be sure of—is that peace is not something that comes about on its own. It is part of a process. The people must also understand that the concept of democracy is developed within an environment of respect—respect for law and social harmony—and that all steps taken must be based on this. There must be nothing to fear, and the path to peace must be taken. It will be an arduous and complex task, and will be the result of the process.

[Reporter] Colonel, has the high command given you and Colonel Israel Machuca full powers for this meeting?
[Vargas] The full powers have been given to the commission. I repeat, we are military advisers to the commission. We have not been given any authority per se. We are not the ones who will be making decisions. I believe and understand that being an advisor includes making responsible suggestions, presenting concepts that are realistic and that will lead to the achievement of the desired peace, and that the rules of our political, social, economic, and democratic process must not be broken.

[Reporter] Colonel, a meeting like this one awakens great expectations among the people. What would you tell the Salvadoran people at this moment?
[Vargas] First, that this is basically a historic moment. Since 1 July the government has been talking about peace and the FMLN has been talking about war and violence. I would like to tell the people that we must all support the government in this search for peace; that the president is determined to achieve peace for the Salvadoran people. We must unite and reconcile the interests of the democratic society to achieve that peace, which will benefit each and every one of us. In that sense, I would also like the people to understand that peace—the peace we are all talking about in an abstract sense—also represents peace with freedom, peace with respect, peace with social harmony, peace with social justice. Peace represents an economic, political, and social democracy; however, we must understand the kind of peace that we all want. Peace is not a single step; it is not an isolated situation; it is a lengthy process that must be undertaken, and we are at the starting line in a race that the government, expressing the wishes of each and every Salvadoran, has described as a national goal.

FMLN on Military Presence

PA1410025789 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] For the Armed Forces 10 years mean nothing. The announcement that the Armed Forces will be represented in the government commission that will participate in the meeting with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] on 16 and 17 October in San Jose, combined with the fact that this meeting is being held precisely 10 years after the 15 October proclamation, leads us to think about the role of the military in the current political process that has begun in the country with the talks being held between ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] and the FMLN.

The presence of the military at the talks calls for some recollections of history—but without calling them historic highlights. Just like 10 years ago, the military can become a factor of peace or an element for continuing the war. The possibility of ending the suffering of the Salvadoran people is in their hands.

If they arrive at the meeting with the idea of replacing the government commission and ensuring that the commission's actions will not hinder the plan to escalate the war and close the doors to a negotiation, then they will have ruined another chance for peace. And there is very

little doubt that they will do exactly that, after viewing the recent actions by the Army and the security corps. During the last week of September alone, several humanitarian and union organizations reported on the arrest of 140 workers; in other words, 20 arrests a day, or about one arrest every hour. High ranking officers such as Deputy Defense Minister Colonel Juan Orlando Zepeda, Deputy Public Security Minister Colonel Orlando Montano, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce have described the FMLN's peace proposals as propaganda, as signs of weakness, as craziness. Meanwhile, during his speech before the UN General Assembly, Cristiani did not even mention the FMLN's initiative and flexibility, but only offered the same space that was offered by Duarte during his times, a small corner in the counterinsurgent democracy while the rabbits are hunted down.

Representatives Announced

PA1410223089 Paris AFP in Spanish 2037 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Excerpt] San Jose, 14 Oct (AFP)—A convent on the northern outskirts of the Costa Rican capital will be the site of the upcoming negotiations between the Salvadoran Government and Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] guerrillas on 16 and 17 October in search of a political solution to the 10-year armed conflict in El Salvador, church sources reported today.

The meeting will begin at 1000 (1600 GMT) on 16 October at the Clarisas Convent in the semirural township of Moravia, and will be attended by Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, serving as mediator; and observers from the United Nations and the OAS, Francesc Vendrell and Hugo de Zela, respectively.

The FMLN will be represented by Commanders Joaquin Villalobos, Shafik Handal, Miguel Saenz, and Ana Guadalupe Martinez, according to sources of the Costa Rican Government, which has assisted in arranging the meeting.

For its part, the Salvadoran Embassy reported that its government delegation will be made up of Ministers Juan Antonio Martinez (presidency), Oscar Alfredo Santamaria (justice), University Rector Rafael Contreras, Vice Rector David Escobar, and Abelardo Torres, an economist and attorney.

Colonel Dionisio Ismael Machuca, director of the National Police, and Colonel Mauricio Vargas, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade, will also attend. [passage omitted]

No Cease-Fire for Talks

PA1510015289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Commander Joaquin Villalobos has stated that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] will not decree a unilateral cease-fire during the San Jose meeting [with Salvadoran Government representatives] because the cease-fire must be the result of a concerted effort.

Cristiani Previews Talks

PA1610031189 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0204 GMT 16 Oct 89

["Speech to the Salvadoran people" by President Alfredo Cristiani; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening, Salvadorans. Tonight, I would like to begin by reading from Article 168 and Paragraph 3 of our Constitution.

Article 168 deals with duties and obligations of the president of the Republic, and paragraph 3 states: To promote social harmony and preserve domestic peace and calm and the safety of the members of society.

I allowed myself to read this article because the second meeting of the dialogue process between representatives of our government and the FMLN [Farabunto Marti National Liberation Front] will begin on 16 October.

Dear friends, we would like to take a few minutes of your time to comment on the seriousness and importance of what will take place in San Jose, Costa Rica, beginning on 16 October. It involves a sincere government effort to seek a firm and lasting peace as soon as possible. Our delegation will attend that meeting with this purpose in mind: To end violence in our country—all kinds of violence—and to ensure that we will be able to live in peace and to move about safely.

We will propose a complete end to hostilities. It is an overall proposal. We hope that the FMLN will study it carefully. In the days prior to this upcoming meeting, we have heard a number of statements from various segments of the population. We wanted to address the political segment specifically.

I wish to urge those political parties that are represented in the Legislative Assembly to join the peace process. I again urge you to leave partisan interests out of this peace process that began in Mexico and that will continue on 16 October. Let us make this a national goal and not a partisan goal. Let us all unite for the sake of peace. All political parties must contribute by doing their share to achieve this objective that the Salvadoran people desire so much.

Political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly could easily establish an interpartisan group. They may ask other political groups to join in, but they should work together with the government to achieve this national goal. It is not a goal of any special group. We want the achievement of peace to be a victory of the Salvadoran people and not a victory of any particular group.

We want to attain peace in the short term. We do not want a struggle over a process that we could be hindering

needlessly. We especially appeal to the Christian Democratic Party, which is the strongest opposition force at this time. We believe that they already have the experience gained over the past 5 years and are aware of how sensitive it is to be involved in a peace process, and how difficult it was to develop such a peace process without the assistance of other sectors. Perhaps now we should consider the fact that to achieve peace we also need unity of criteria. We need the unity of all Salvadorans working toward the same goal. This is what our government seeks, and this is the appeal we are making to political parties on this occasion.

We are willing, as we mentioned in our speech on 1 June, to carry out all phases of this process while holding ongoing consultations with political parties. It would be great if Legislative Assembly parties decided to establish an interparty commission in which all parties would be represented. I repeat: If you wish, we could call other political forces to join in and become aware of the process so that we can all participate in the efforts to attain our goal. We must also be very clear. We always want to be very straightforward with you, the Salvadoran people. We do not want the huge desire for peace we all have to burst. We all want to have peace in our country.

However, it is difficult to resolve a 10-year fratricidal conflict. We will face obstacles. We do not want frustrations to arise because we are not progressing at the speed people demand, because agreements might not be attained if there is inflexibility in this dialogue process.

Salvadoran people, we believe that you must remain calm, because the government of the Republic is comitted along with you to struggle unceasingly to achieve peace. This is what we are doing. We are working as hard as necessary to carry out a process that achieves results for the benefit of all Salvadoran society, because we all want to live in peace and tranquility and to leave our children an El Salvador in which they can play and travel freely anywhere in the country.

We also want to tell the FMLN that this is the time to show their real commitment to peace, which they say they have. We have proposed an end to the conflict in El Salvador. We want an end to violence. The Salvadoran people have the right to live in peace. We can give them peace if there is goodwill. The FMLN now has the opportunity to show their true commitment to peace. They should not continue using the dialogue process for tactical or strategic purposes. The only objective that must prevail in this dialogue is the Salvadoran people and the welfare of the Salvadoran people. The people want to live in peace and tranquility.

Salvadoran brothers, perhaps the thing we must do now is pray to God as some have suggested. We must pray and ask God to make things come out the way we want them to. We want the best for our country, El Salvador, our dear homeland, and for our dear people.

Friends, let us pray a little and let us not go overboard with our hopes for what can be achieved in Costa Rica, but let us join in and pray for peace in El Salvador.

God bless you and good night.

Guatemala

Cerezo Dismisses U.S. Involvement in Coup

PA1410162589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1752 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Text] Guatemala, 11 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo does not believe that the United States intervened in last week's military coup attempt against Panamanian "strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

In a communique issued by the Presidency, Cerezo stated that "there is no reason I should not believe what U.S. President George Bush has said."

The Guatemalan president said that in Panama there are "two different things," and that he does not favor U.S. intervention in any country. [sentence as received]

A group of "junior officers" of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] tried on 3 October to remove Noriega and other members of the FDP Staff, but the uprising was crushed by forces loyal to the general.

Ten soldiers and officers, including the leader of the coup attempt, Major Moises Giroldi, died in the rebellion.

Cerezo, who has suffered three coup attempts since taking office in 1986, added that "we have always opposed intervention, but I must note that this coup attempt was caused, basically, by internal problems."

For Vinicio Cerezo, it would be best if the Panamanian Government decides to democratize the country to avoid a polarization from taking place in Panama.

URNG General Command's Manifesto Published

PA1410184889 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 30 Sep 89 p 18

["Manifesto" issued by the General Command of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG); dated September 1989]

[Text] We Guatemalans are experiencing one of the darkest and most fatal chapters of our history. It is characterized by sorrow, uncertainty, misery, backwardness, and instability. In the midst of this situation, the Guatemalan people are heroically forging the future through indomitable struggle. The people's rebelliousness and discontent are channeled and expressed in every means and form. With only 16 months and a few days left before the current presidential term ends, far from being resolved, the situation that the government promised to remedy has worsened. Instead of change,

repression, terror, instability, chaos, and corruption continue to hold sway. We live in a climate of deceit, frustration, and manipulation.

The present situation that the Cerezo Arevalo administration is facing is the product of that administration's own inconsistencies. It has shown itself to be a counter-insurgent, repressive, terrorist government.

The democratizing process that was offered to the Guatemalan people did not materialize. The Cerezo government, which had a real opportunity to construct such a process, eliminated the possibility of becoming a democratic alternative. It became a simple instrument of Gramajo's clique, and of those who are opposed to independence, democracy, and development.

Political, economic, and social justice was not, and are not present, and so far, the bases have not been established for integrated development that would be to everyone's benefit.

Supported by a sector of the Christian Democrats and [Minister of Defense Hector Alejandro] Gramajo's clique, Cerezo Arevalo seeks to blame the terror and the repression, which have been alarming over the past few months, on the "death squads" and the "extreme left." In an irresponsible manner, Cerezo seeks to mock and confuse national and international opinion.

The so-called "death squads" do not murder government officials or Army officers. This is done only by the special commands of the G-2, when they are ordered to eliminate—first of all—the dissidents and opponents of the government and counterinsurgency programs. Specific examples are the Christian Democratic ideologist Danilo Barillas and the prestigious entrepreneur Castillo Love.

The repression and terror unleashed in recent months is explained by the Army's fear of the people's movement. The Army is trying to halt the advance of the people's movement, and has therefore launched the greatest repression of recent years.

The university student movement has become the target of criminals, due to the role it plays together with the people's movement, and because it is an important and active participant in the democratic movement. The Army thinks the democratic movement will diminish when it strikes the university movement.

The General Command of the URNG is concerned and angry to see how an unjust regime is prolonged. The truth is that Gramajo's gang controls the reins of power, while Cerezo Arevalo lends himself to the farce and enjoys all the benefits.

The repression is also the result and reflection of the internal contradictions among the various power groups.

In view of the failure of the reformist counter-insurgency plan that the Army has been trying to maintain by creating false images in the various Central American presidents' meeting, the Army has the resource of the "political sacrifice" of the Cerezo administration, making it pay the costs and trying later to fix the project.

The advanced "electoral process" seeks to attract, generate expectations for, mobilize, and deviate the attention of the people from their interests and basic struggles.

The threats, attempts, and boycott of the National Dialogue are, in fact, hindering the possibility that it could have been a tribunal for democratization. In the face of repression and terror, it is difficult to think of successful and productive results of the efforts the National Reconciliation Commission has made with this objective.

If a gradual process that allows establishing the bases for democratization is not followed, democracy will become impossible. We reaffirm that both the construction of democracy, as well as peace, are a process—and one cannot build democracy based on terror.

The presence and activities of the Army throughout most of the nation and its counterinsurgency actions continue to be the main factors of the unrest, violence, and terror that Guatemalans are suffering in all sectors, and the main obstacle for opening the path toward building democracy.

The inability to establish the bases for a program that will take the country out of the crisis, the lack of political willingness, the corruption, and the internal disputes within and among the parties are also causes that have hindered the path toward building democracy.

The U.S. Government's intervention in the counterinsurgency struggle and, in general, in the political, economic, and social life of the country has increased. This is evident in the mediation between the government and the military, in the economic aid that has allowed the regime to maintain an artificial economy, and in electoral political life. In the military aspect, it is also evident in the training and infrastructure, and in directing military operations, including aviation attacks against the guerrillas.

They are currently planning how to increase support for the program they have designed for Guatemala, also how to increase aid, covering it up with the argument that it is for "defense of democracy" or for helping the government to "struggle against violence" and "against narcotics trafficking."

The loans and "assistance" are the sources from which the government has obtained fresh foreign currency, at the cost of sinking the country more into debt. The economic crisis has deepened, and it cannot be solved within the framework of the current regime.

As a just answer, the revolutionary people's war has increased. URNG military units are now fighting in 11 of the 22 departments of the country, including Guatemala City, where we have attacked important targets. From April to date, we have carried out approximately 688 military actions, and have inflicted 1,172 casualties on the Army.

In view of the serious threats that are hovering over the country, the most representative organized sectors of the Guatemalan people decided to form a National Movement for Peace. The URNG greets this new effort of struggle and calls on all sectors to join it.

Guatemalans interested in putting an end to the situation that our beloved fatherland is experiencing have the possibility of finding a solution that will allow reaching a different regime. On our part, we have the firm determination to seek political solutions to achieve this.

To advance in a process of democratization, we need to begin by changing the state's repressive structure, currently under the control of Gen Gramajo's gang.

To initiate these changes, we have insisted on dialogue between the government and the URNG. However, although throughout Central America there is a willingness to hold a dialogue, President Cerezo and Gramajo's gang refuse to do that.

In the face of this attitude, the General Command of the URNG feels it is necessary to initiate a process of dialogue and conversation with all the forces and political parties—with all the people's sectors, the religious groups, the entrepreneurs, and the honest soldiers—to form together a true alternative.

We propose holding meetings on dates we will all agree to, and in a country that will meet the conditions for security and that will allow us to meet. This is a task, a right, and a duty of Guatemalans. We must seek and find formulas of solution that are acceptable for all of us who have something to contribute, and thus put a definite end to repression, terror, and violations of human rights—and initiate a true democratic process.

The topics to be discussed could include—in addition to these vital ones, such as putting an end to repression and to the internal armed conflict—the immediate economic aspects that will allow us to develop, without any pressure from or measures by the IMF, a prosperous economy.

Other topics to be discussed must also include fighting the corruption, embezzlement, nepotism, and bribery that the government is committing, and which is a scandal.

We must also discuss fighting those who have turned our fatherland into a producer and base for the infamous crime of narcotics trafficking.

We must confront inflation and the increase in prices, and as a result, we must halt the high cost of living that is crushing our people.

We must discuss the possibility for creating—through the development of the internal and external market—new sources of employment, establishing just conditions for hiring workers in both the rural and urban areas. There must be a free organization of workers and of all sectors of the people of Guatemala.

We must discuss the return of refugees to their communities and lands from where they were expelled, respecting their demands, as well as those who have been displaced internally.

There must be total respect for the ethnic groups that form part of our nation, and they must have access to the political and cultural institutions of the country.

Together, holding a dialogue and reaching agreements, we will be able to make the decisions that will pull our fatherland from the problems in which it is submerged, putting an end to the use of military forces, and solving the problems with political measures that will put an end to the bloodshed and establish the bases for peace and democracy in Guatemala.

General Command of the URNG: Commander Rolando Moran, Commander Pablo Monsanto, Commander Gaspar Ilom, Carlos Gonzalez.
September 1989, Guatemala

Honduras

Minister on U.S. Suspension of AID Support

PA1310145889 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Honduran Economy Minister Reginaldo Panting said on 2 October that John Sanbrailo, representative for the Agency for International Development (AID), has to explain why the United States has not given Honduras a $70 million aid package to help the balance of payment situation.

Asked about the status of the negotiations to obtain this money, which is usually received in August, Panting said that "you must ask the AID."

Pointing to the AID's refusal to give the money to Honduras, Panting said that "by citing the same reasons for needing the money the Dominican Republic received 12 million [currency not specified] last week to help its balance of payment situation."

As a prerequisite for Honduras to receive the $70 million, the Unites States is demanding the signing of a letter of intent with the IMF, which officials of the current government have said will not be signed because of the conditions for monetary and foreign currency exchange adjustments that the letter includes.

Asked about a public request by U.S. Democratic Senator Christopher Dodd, favoring giving Honduras the $70 million, Panting said: "You all know that one cannot do everything one would like to do."

Panting said that the Honduran Central Bank is negotiating a $20 million loan to pay the IMF $20 million that is overdue.

Panting added that the reactivation of a line of credit with Mexico is almost completed, which will allow

imports and exports from that country. The credit was suspended a few months ago because of a delay in payment by Honduras. The line of credit is for $25 million per year.

Reportage on CIAV Activities, Contra Reactions

Commission Conducts Meetings

PA1310225889 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Report by Jose Rolando Sarmiento]

[Text] On 12 October I accompanied the Honduran Government and Army Coordinating Commission as it in turn accompanied the International Support and Verification Commission, CIAV, formed by Francesco Vendrell of the United Nations and Hugo de Sela of the OAS, who with their aides traveled to Yamales to initiate the talks established in the procedures of demobilization, relocation, or repatriation of the Nicaraguan armed contras and their families to Nicaragua or other countries.

The situation became very interesting when, after having met with the Nicaraguan insurgents' general staff, headed by Colonel Enrique Bermudez, known as commander [words indistinct], the CIAV representatives met with the Nicaraguan rebel commanders. During this meeting several commanders told the CIAV representatives of the Nicaraguan rebels' fear of returning to their country because all of the necessary conditions do not exist to guarantee their lives and that of their families.

Later in the afternoon we went to the central camp in Yamales, where several insurgent task forces and combat battalions, approximately 4,000 people, had gathered in the square for the talks. Commander Bermudez introduced Francesco Vendrell and Hugo de Sela, and the mothers of fighters spoke of the situation and the anguish they experience over the pressure that exists for the rebels to return to their country.

[Begin recording] [Bermudez] We will negotiate seriously, and we want the Sandinists to negotiate seriously with us. This is our position, it is firm, and we will maintain it. If the Sandinists truly want peace and democracy for Nicaragua, we are willing to seriously negotiate with them on specific terms.

You will be constantly informed of the progress or retrogression of the negotiations. As Nicaraguans, fighters, and Nicaragua's best sons, you have every right to be informed, and we will keep you informed. Any decision that is made must be patiently examined by all the fighters and the Nicaraguan people.

The Nicaraguan people want peace and democracy, and we will struggle for it to the last sacrifice, as we have done all this time. Therefore, I am going to keep you informed of our negotiations with the Sandinists. The negotiations will be [word indistinct] by the commission you already know, which is formed by Commanders [names indistinct] and Capulina who are not here today. They wanted to see the fighters succeed.

I believe this was a good time to come. Later, the CIAV representatives will be allowed to speak with some of the fighters' families who are on my right. As Nicaraguans you should not mince your words; you must say everything you want to say. This is an opportunity to speak out, not to remain silent.

I am very pleased and honored to introduce Mr Vendrell of the United Nations and Hugo de Sela, who represent the CIAV. I will give the microphone to Mr Vendrell first, and then to Mr De Sela so that they can say a few words to you. [applause]

[Vendrell] We are here on what is, in reality, a peace and reconciliation mission. The Central American presidents decided that the Nicaraguan resistance had fulfilled its mission, and that within a relatively short time it should demobilize and return to Nicaragua. The commission is here to ensure that your return is voluntary. The commission is here to ensure that the desires of each and every one of you are met. If you want a democratic and free Nicaragua, then you must also freely express your desires here.

Consequently, I will leave you with this idea: The CIAV is here to help you, to promote your return, your voluntary return. You must also remember these two things: You are in foreign territory and you can only remain here as long as the country's government allows you to stay. Second, I must remind you that you are Nicaraguans, patriots, and (?sons) of Nicaragua. You must not become the object of a policy that has become anachronistic. You must not allow yourselves to be abandoned by the country which at one time helped you. Thank you. [end recording]

This is what the rebel troops and commanders gathered in Yamales with their families were told regarding the fulfillment of the agreements signed by the presidents at the Tela, Honduras meeting in August on the demobilization, repatriation, or relocation of the Nicaraguan armed resistance and their families to Nicaragua or other countries. The commanders stated their concerns, saying that they would be willing to return to Nicaragua as long as the conditions they have requested are met.

Meanwhile, the CIAV members and their assistants clearly established the Honduran Government and Armed Forces' willingness to cooperate as much as is necessary, so that the CIAV can do its work in Honduras by establishing talks and supervising visits with the different sectors involved in the situation. With the Honduran Government's support, the CIAV will be able to fulfill the mission entrusted to it by the United Nations and OAS through its special representatives Francesco Vendrell and Hugo de Sela.

At approximately 0030 this morning, the CIAV members returned to Tegucigalpa after a long and hazardous trip through the Yamales border area, and will meet with Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras at 1100.

Bermudez on Demobilization Plans

PA1310230989 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Report on interview with Nicaraguan Resistance Commander Colonel Enrique Bermudez by Milton Mateo and other unidentified reporters in Yamales, Honduras, on 12 October]

[Text] [Mateo] Enrique Bermudez, the famous Commander 380 of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], has said that a quick demobilization of what is known as the RN [Nicaraguan Resistance], or contras, is difficult because Nicaragua has not given any credible signs of democratization, and the promises it has made to international organizations have not been fulfilled. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Bermudez, in progress]... respect for fundamental human rights is not [word indistinct].

[Mateo] Basically, what reliable guarantees is the RN demanding to return to its country?
[Bermudez] Well, guarantees of fundamental human feeedoms and democracy. You know that under the Esquipulas agreement the Sandinists are committed to achieving national reconciliation, general amnesty, democratization, and a national dialogue. We have seen absolutely nothing thus far, except for a few concessions in an electoral process that is incomplete and headed toward a fraud, judging from the conditions in which it is taking place.

[Mateo] Do you not believe in the promises that the Sandinist government made in Esquipulas, El Salvador, and in Tela?
[Bermudez] We do not believe in any promises—and not only in promises but in anything signed by the Sandinists. They signed the Esquipulas agreement and have not fulfilled a single commitment in it.

[Reporter] Colonel, if you do not intend to defend yourselves and [word indistinct] Honduras, where do you intend to go?
[Bermudez] We will take this step after the entire negotiation process has been exhausted.

[Reporter] In the United States, the situation of the contras has begun to be called the chronicle of a death foretold. Do you think this is really the case?
[Bermudez] Many of those news reports are politically motivated.

[Mateo] Finally, commander...
[Bermudez, interrupting] As you can see here, we are quite alive.

[Mateo] Commander, there is the impression, I mean, I gather that the Council of Commanders [Consejo de Comandantes] rejects the demobilization?
[Bermudez] We are fighting for democracy and freedom in Nicaragua. Regarding this concept of outright rejection, well, we are prepared to negotiate, to listen, to see what steps the Sandinists will take toward democratization.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] [5-second break in reception]
[Bermudez, in progress]... the Nicaraguan people are all fighting—some in a peaceful and some in an active way. There are two kinds of resistance: peaceful and armed—the political resistance and the armed resistance. We are fighting for an armed solution as long as a civilized way is not found.

[Mateo] Regarding this latter option, do you think that there is still room for peaceful resistance, for the electoral process in Nicaragua?
[Bermudez] Did you say the peaceful resistance, or...

[Mateo, interrupting] No, I refer to the electoral process as peaceful resistance.
[Bermudez] The way it is, the electoral process is fouled up. As you know, the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] is composed of four Sandinists and one representative of the opposition. From that point on, everything that follows is defective. The registrations are fouled up, there is harassment to keep the people and the political parties from acting—they are not being sold gasoline and efforts are being made to block all of their activities. So, this process is faulty from the start. Therefore, the elections would be but a continuation of...

[Reporter, interrupting] Commander, we want to know, are you considering the option of the enclaves that was proposed today at the meeting of commanders as a possibility?
[Bermudez] No. Everything is subject to negotiation. We have raised our positions and viewpoints, and all this will be negotiated.

[Reporter] Would that be a solution?
[Bermudez] It is included among the options. We are not ruling options out. All of them are included. We are going to negotiate them and will accept those leading to true democratization. [end recording]

Rebels Explain Position

PA1310150889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1325 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Yamales, Honduras, 13 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan contras on Thursday demanded more democratizing measures in Nicaragua as a prerequisite for them to put down their weapons and begin demobilizing from their camps in Yamales, in eastern Honduras, where they have been stationed since the beginning of this decade.

Anti-Sandinist military leaders explained this to a team from the OAS and the United Nations who make up the

International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV). The CIAV is in charge of the demobilization of the rebels, and their resettlement in Nicaragua or in third countries.

The CIAV was created by the Central American presidents at the last summit held in the city of Tela, Honduras, from 5-7 August.

The CIAV delegation, which talked yesterday with the contra chiefs in Yamales, located 150 km from Tegucigalpa and approximately 40 km from the Nicaraguan border, is headed by Francesco Vendrell, a Spaniard, and Hugo de Sela, a Peruvian, who will brief Honduran authorities today on what they discussed with the anti-Sandinists.

The contras, lined up in formation and carrying their rifles, heard their military leader, Enrique Bermudez, explain to the OAS and UN envoys that the contras will remain in the camps as long as the Honduran Government and Armed Forces allow them to do so, in case the Sandinists fail to take real steps toward democratization.

Bermudez said the contras are prepared to go along with the plan for demobilization, repatriation, and voluntary resettlement agreed upon by the presidents on 7 August, but, he said, Nicaragua "must comply with its democratization promises."

Vendrell reminded the contras that the Tela agreements call for demobilization before 8 December. He told them not to forget that they are in a foreign country.

In addition, he explained that they should not be deceived by governments that offer them aid and then abandon them. Although he did not say so, this was a clear allusion to the United States, which has been the main economic and military support of the contras since they were organized at the beginning of this decade in Honduras.

The CIAV official said he had discussed two basic points with the anti-Sandinists. He did not go into detail, saying that he will do so during a press conference in Tegucigalpa today.

Banana Workers Reach Agreement; Strike Ends

PA1610035389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0252 GMT 16 Oct 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 October (DPA)— The strike held by more than 10,000 banana workers of a U.S. firm for the past 13 days ended tonight after an agreement was reached between management and union leaders at the Honduran Presidential House. The government, thus, avoided the general strike that 100,000 workers planned to begin on 16 October.

Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyos announced at Presidential House that the conflict between the Tela Railroad Company—an affiliate of the multinational United Brands—and the workers union had ended and, with it, the strike that began on 3 October that staggered the banana industry.

Tela's management and the banana union had serious differences in the interpretation of the collective labor contract, and this led to the strike. The firm had sold one of its packing units to independent banana growers, and transferred 60 employees to its other farms and installations. However, the firm did not guarantee the workers employment or economic stability, and the workers claimed they were to earn lower wages.

The agreement reached tonight between the Tela Railroad Company and the union, with President Azcona's mediation, stipulates that the 60 workers who were reassigned will be given job security, and their wages will be equal to what they were paid prior to their transfer. The 60 workers were living in the Higuerito community, Cortes Province, approximately 260 km north of Tegucigalpa.

The agreement reached tonight kept approximately 100,000 workers affiliated with the Confederation of Honduran Workers (CTH) from staging a general strike to support their fellow banana workers on 16 October.

Nicaragua

MININT Exposition Features Defeats of 'CIA'

PA1410141089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] As part of the celebrations commemorating the 10th anniversay of the Ministry of the Interior, [MININT], today the ministry will inaugurate an exposition called "Expomint'89."

Commander Jose Figueroa, MININT secretary general, said that they will show the ministry's achievements during the past 10 years, as well as the defeats inflicted upon attempted CIA terrorist actions.

The exposition will be open to the public on 14-20 October. Commander Figueroa said that during "Expomint'89," certain services will be expedited, such as delivery of licenses and visas to travel abroad. Figueroa also disclosed that at the exposition visitors will have access to information on about 100 CIA agents involved in terrorist activities over the 10 years of the revolution.

Reportage of National, Opposition Election Efforts

'Parallel Vote-Counting' Denounced

PA1410155289 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Oct 89 pp 1, 5

[Unattributed article: "CYPSA Connection To Introduce Computers"]

[Text] A "promoter" for the front group "Civic Way" ["Via Civica"], who did not want us to disclose his

name, told BARRICADA on 10 October of attempts to introduce from Costa Rica a large number of computers to establish "a parallel vote-counting system" unconnected to the Supreme Electoral Council, through a private company CYPSA.

In charge of introducing the computers in the country is Mr Jeronimo Sequeira, CYPSA manager and finance secretary of "Civic Way." He is to coordinate the operation directly with U.S. Embassy official Christopher McMullen, who serves as NED [National Endowment for Democracy] liaison.

Together with the package of computers, valued at tens of thousands of dollars, a team of "experts" on "electoral voting" would be arriving in the country to establish the system to intervene in vote-counting. Some of these persons carried out similar functions in the recent elections in Panama.

The "Civic Way" official disclosed this information and said that "training" was conducted on 8 October, the second day of voter registration. The "Civic Way" activists went to different Ballot - Receiving Boards to count how many people were registering. Afterward they delivered "the report" to a liaison, who forwarded the information to the "Civic Way" office, where the computers are to be installed.

A majority of the activists are young students from various neighborhoods, and some belong to religious movements. However, our source said that those serving as liaison are all well-known members of the UNO [National Opposition Union] parties.

UNO leaders are recruiting people for their front group "Civic Way" by offering salaries of 2 million cordobas to secretaries and 900,000 cordobas to neighbhorood activists, as well as t-shirts and "Marlboro" lighters; and by promising dollars.

The recruitment work is based on work at the Faure, Teresiano, Calasanz, and Miguel de Cervantes schools, where brigades would go on "house to house" visists in the neighborhoods. According to our source, in charge of recruiting the young people are well-known right-wing figures such as Father Bismark Carballo, Alvin Guthrie, Carlos Mantica, Hortensia Rivas, and Father Leopoldo Brenes.

Hortensia Rivas has told BARRICADA that she directs training sessions in churches "throughout the country."

The "Civic Way" recruiter noted that twice a week, "area supervisors" meet with Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] and UNO leaders in the residence of Dr Carlos Quinonez. There, the COSEP and UNO leaders talk to these supervisors and tell them that "the Sandinist Front is going to cheat, therefore we are going to play foul because UNO must not lose."

The recruiter said that "lecturers" have told the supervisors that "this kind of information is for internal consumption only" and that the message to be delivered to the people must be a "civic" one, without openly calling for votes for UNO. At schools, young people are asked: Do you want war? No! Do you want peace? Yes! Do you want the Military Service? No! Then the UNO politicians note: "This is why we must vote in February."

The source said that Roger Cano, an economics and social sciences professor at the Miguel de Cervantes Institute, who probably is also a member of Virgilio Godoy's Independent Liberal Party, is a recruiter supervisor in District Three, and he has been assigned by Hortensia Rivas the task of recruiting professors. It has been reported that one of the activities that Cano and Rivas are planning is the promotion of a teachers strike "throughout the country."

The recruiter also revealed that UNO militants have received the "suggestion" to urge their children to study in secondary schools affiliated with "Civic Way." For this purpose, UNO has distributed sealed identification cards signed by Dr Quinonez ready to be filled by affiliated students.

Our source has produced samples of those identification cards, as well as "reports on house-to-house visits" that UNO militants have received from recruiting "activists."

Yesterday, BARRICADA again tried to contact Mr Sequeira, but he still refuses to comment.

NED Paying UNO $8 Million

PA1410131089 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Oct 89 pp 1, 5

[Unattributed article: "The Right Received $8 Million"]

[Text]

Bayardo Denounces Illegal Funds

Leon City—Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, electoral campaign manager of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], has charged here that the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) illegally provided $8 million dollars to support diverse groups of the National Opposition Union (UNO).

Commander Arce said NED granted that huge amount to front groups like the Civic Way, Cefjo [not further identified], and an organization of Somozist women, as well as to the news media.

He added that not a penny of that money was legally brought into the country, since it does not appear in the Central Bank's records, and no money has been deposited in the Supreme Electoral Council's Fund for Democracy.

"In plain language, it is a covert operation," Arce noted, categorically rejecting a recent statement by Violeta Chamorro that the U.S. Congress had banned covert aid.

UNO Already Received Yankee Pay

The Bush administration and the U.S. Congress made an agreement whereby the former pledged not to carry out covert operations, but support the Nicaraguan opposition rallied around UNO, Arce explained.

The Sandinist leader dismissed the idea that this was an agreement in good faith, recalling Reagan used to deny the existence of covert operations at the same time he authorized the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

He felt that just as the contras comprise the United States' armed wing in its struggle against Nicaragua, UNO is its political wing.

He also commented on the sudden concern of former Somozist deputies living in Honduras who promote the free delivery of medicine to border towns in Chinandega Department. The goods they give out come labeled with UNO propaganda.

Commander Arce recalled that the contras tried to attract peasants in some areas of the country by giving them boots, machetes, and other farm implements. However, the contras failed to win the peasants' support because of the criminal nature of contra activities.

At any rate, he felt customs officials must intervene in this matter. He also felt that the state must look into the very serious charge BARRICADA made with regard to the construction company CYPSA, which serves as the recipient of part of the covert aid.

As for the Central American ambassador who had been helping to provide covert aid for UNO, the Sandinist leader said that the Nicaraguan Government "closed" the case after the Foreign Ministry held bilateral discussions on the matter.

Arce termed the fact that the electoral law allows foreign aid as "sad" and "shameful," since this does not happen in any other country of the world. That, together with the presence of international observers in the elections, constitute two major concessions to avoid pretexts that may help the United States sabotage the elections.

As is known, the FSLN conducted a broad process of negotiations that led the Central American president to agree to a plan to demobilize the contras and create a mechanism to verify matters of security in Central America.

That is why Arce yesterday said he feels that at the end of the elections process "the imperialist policy will be buried."

Arce also accused UNO leaders of trying to dishonestly interpret the agreements they reached with the government in the national dialogue in August, when a moratorium was declared on recruiting for the Patriotic Military Service for active duty. However, this measure did not include the reserves.

During the internal debates that took place until reaching the August agreements, conservative Cesar Augusto Castillo asked that this temporary suspension during the election process include the reserves. [Opposition leaders] Eduardo Molina, Eli Altamirano, and Jaime Bonilla supported that proposal, but Arce explained the technical reasons given by the Defense Ministry, which made that request impossible.

CSE Member on U.S., UNO

PA1410164589 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] member (Dr Aman Sandino) stated on 12 October that bringing into the country and receiving foreign funds for UNO's [National Opposition Union] campaign is a violation of the electoral law. The CSE member said that the highest electoral office in the country is investigating reports that the rightist UNO alliance covertly brought dollars into the country.

[Begin (Sandino) recording] I believe that it is illegal for money coming from foreign sources to have circulated in the country, if this is the case. The electoral law stipulates that funds that are sent to a political party or to a group of political parties must be sent to the democracy fund. This fund is divided thus: 50 percent for the CSE to distribute among the other political parties and 50 percent to be given to the party to which it was sent.

[Reporter] Are these reports being investigated?
[Sandino] Yes, we are investigating the case. [end recording]

Eduardo Molina, Democratic Conservative Party presidential candidate, stated yesterday: UNO does not fool me; it receives dollars for its campaign. Only those who do not have eyes do not see UNO's resources to finance its mobilization. This means they receive dollars. Molina compared the 200 million cordobas spent by his party in 15 days for 10 minutes of television air time to UNO's spending the trifle of 2 billion cordobas. The conservative leader asked himself: Where do those millions of cordobas come from? He replied: The cordobas come from the dollars that have been sent by the U S Government. Dr Eduardo Molina calculated UNO's multimillion-dollar expenditures on mobilization, daily expenditures for leaders and party representatives, publicity material, and equipment. His calculations also included the purchase of vehicles, video cassette machines, and parabolic antennas for UNO leaders.

Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] Leader Dionisio Marenco said that ethics had to be considered when UNO's receipt of dollars was analyzed. The FSLN reaffirmed on 12 October that UNO has already received more than $8 million for its political campaign from the U.S. Government. At the meeting between political parties and CSE members, FSLN Dionisio Marenco confirmed that his organization took responsibility for the BARRICADA newspaper report. Marenco told UNO

representatives that it was legal to receive foreign donations or financing if the laws of the country were met, and not, as had been done up to now, in a covert manner. The Sandinist representative, however, explained to the representatives at the meeting that there was an ethical, moral aspect to this matter, as these funds could be coming from the CIA, the mafia, or the Medellin Cartel.

[Begin Marenco recording] Representing UNO, Dr Zuniga [not further identified] accused the media—in this case, the official media—of slander. He said it was not true that they were financing their campaign with dollars. I responded that officially the FSLN took responsibility for any report that appeared in our newspaper, BARRICADA. I added, however, that it surprised me that he would deny that UNO was receiving dollars as it was a publicly known fact. Later on he said... [changes thought] Implicitly, he accepted it as true because he then made reference to an article in the electoral law that stipulates how donations are to be channeled. No one was saying at this meeting that it was illegal to receive donations, as the electoral law does stipulate it. It is no crime to receive donations from abroad, but the matter of the donor is ethical. Are the donations sent by the mafia, the Medellin Cartel, or the CIA? Where do these donations come from? I do not believe it is wrong to receive donations if they come from a workers' solidarity committee of a foreign country. [end recording]

Poll: Chamorro Gaining

PA1310221689 Paris AFP in Spanish 0634 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 12 Oct (AFP)—The popularity of Violeta de Chamorro, Nicaraguan opposition presidental candidate, rose in the past 2 months from 6 to 21 percent, while the government candidate, President Daniel Ortega, remained at 26 percent, according to poll results released today.

The poll, carried out by the Nicaraguan Public Opinion Institute (INOP) among 1,157 voters from 27 September to 2 October in 17 municipal capitals was sponsored by the Ford Foundation, the Inter-American Research Service of California, and the Inter-American Research Center of Mexico.

Despite the 15-percent increase in the National Opposition Union (UNO) candidate's popularity, INOP states that the prospects of Sandinist candidate Ortega "appear to be relatively good, because his performance as president has won him a positive evaluation of 45 percent among those polled."

Explaining Chamorro's progress, the firm cited the economic crisis affecting the country as a favorable element, but noted that the candidate does not benefit from her "lack of political experience."

However, the persons polled link the economic crisis to the U.S. war of aggression.

INOP President Cirilo Otero stated at a news conference that in this poll, the third carried out by the INOP this year, the voters are more certain about who they want to vote for.

According to INOP's figures, 84 percent of the Nicaraguans polled stated their willingness to vote in the coming elections.

Entitled "Democracy and Political Culture," the poll included 83 questions related to the electoral process. According to Otero, the poll is the largest ever conducted in Nicaragua."

Otero explained that the poll did not cover the Atlantic region due to problems of transportation and language difficulties in the region where Spanish, English, and four other dialects are spoken.

In conclusion, he said that the poll conducted in Nicaragua is similar to others that have been conducted in El Salvador and Costa Rica.

The Nicaraguans will hold general elections this coming 25 February.

Chamorro's Son Returns To Work

PA1510153789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1350 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 14 Oct (ACAN-EFE) —Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, who was a member of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] Directorate until July 1988, returned to Nicaragua on 13 October after 5 years in exile to support the presidential candidacy of his mother, Violeta Chamorro, and also to work as a journalist.

Chamorro Barrios, 38, formerly co-director of the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA, was received at the Sandino International Airport by his mother Violeta, as well as relatives and leaders of the Social Democratic Party, which he founded.

Chamorro Barrios was accompanied by newsman Luis Mora Sanchez, who is returning after 4 years in exile, also to back Violeta's candidacy and to work as correspondent for Radio Impacto and LA NACION of Costa Rica.

The first thing Chamorro Barrios said upon landing in Managua was that he will not reside in Managua permanently but will be coming and going.

Violeta Chamorro is presidential candidate for the National Opposition Union, the leading opposition alliance that includes 14 parties.

Chamorro Barrios will also work as a correspondent for DIARIO DE LAS AMERICAS and commentator for Channel 23, a subsidiary of Univision of Miami.

Chamorro Barrios said: "I have also come to register my name on 15 October" so as to vote in the 25 February

elections. He said he talked "cordially" with the Managua airport authorities, who asked him to sign a document promising "to obey a number of laws."

Chamorro Barrios is another of the former contra leaders who have returned to Nicaragua to participate in the electoral campaign that will conclude with the 25 February 1990 elections.

Former RN Directorate members Azucena Ferrey, Roberto Ferrey, Alfredo Cesar, and Alfonso Robelo, as well as other Nicaraguan opposition leaders who have been exiled for more than 5 years, have also returned to the country.

Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, at present a member of the RN Directorate, has also reported he will return to Nicaragua to register his name, but the exact date of his return has not yet been confirmed.

CIAV Delegation Delivers Contra Proposal

PA1510174800 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 15 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The delegation of the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV), in charge of carrying out the demobilization of the "contras," has delivered to the Nicaraguan Government a rebel proposal for dismantling their camps in Honduras.

The mission, which is led by Spaniard Frances Vendrell and Peruvian Hugo de Zela, arrived last night in Managua from Honduras, where they met for a second time with the rebel chiefs to discuss their demobilization before 8 December, as agreed upon by the Central Americans in August.

After arriving in Managua, the CIAV delegation met with the government delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Tinoco and Deputy Defense Minister Joaquin Cuadra, with whom they conversed about their visit to the rebel camps in Yamales, Honduras and the demobilization plan.

In their conversations, Vendrell notified them about the proposals of the rebels, who are asking for guarantees before initiating their voluntary demobilization process.

The Nicaraguan authorities have said that the contras who wish to return to Nicaragua can do so without any problems, and the government offered them economic assistance while they rejoin society.

In August the Central American presidents agreed in Tela, Honduras on a plan to dismantle, demobilize, and relocate in Honduras or third countries the rebels stationed in Honduran territory, in exchange for the democratization of the Sandinist regime.

In order to do this, an international commission led by the OAS and UN secretaries general was formed to watch over the demobilization of some 12,000 rebel fighters.

According to Vendrell, the mission that visited the camps pointed out to the contra chiefs that the timetable approved by the five Central American presidents for dismantling the anti-Sandinist camps expires on 8 December.

Ministry Reports Military Actions in Sep

PA1510183289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry has reported that the contras staged 138 attacks against government military troops and the civilian population in September, which resulted in 26 people killed, 3 wounded, and 15 kidnapped.

The document said that forces of the Sandinist People's Army and the Interior Ministry repelled 128 attacks by the contras, who sustained 60 casualties, 45 of which were fatal. The report also said that Colonel Enrique Bermudez' guards attacked civilians 10 times, murdering 8, injuring 3, and kidnapping 15.

In addition, 18 members of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces were killed by the contras.

The U.S. Government conducted nine strategic surveillance flights with sophisticated planes and equipment, and 30 tactical surveillance flights over Regions 1 and 6.

Finally, the report stated that the U.S. Government had kept warships in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans for naval surveillance and control.

7 Killed, 7 Wounded in Contra Attack

PA1410161189 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Oct 89 pp 1, 4

[Article by T Rothschuh]

[Text] Chontales, Region 5—Seven were killed and seven wounded as the result of an attack by contra right-wing activists against Las Pinuelas Permanent Territorial Company troops carrying out community work at the house-farm owned by Melanio Morales, whose house was riddled with bullets.

The criminal attack took place at approximately 0200 on 9 October in the Kuskawas area, nine km north of Los Chinamos, Santo Domingo, Chontales Department. Troops from Las Pinuelas Battalion were attacked by activists financed by the Bush Administration, as they rested after fulfilling vigilance and community support tasks.

It is estimated that the activist group that was carrying out armed propaganda in the zone is comprised of about 40 people. The contras launched grenades and opened

fire with machineguns and rifles at the positions where the soldiers were resting, and at the farmer's house. "Grenades were falling everywhere over the house, which was almost totally destroyed," said Jose Luis Vargas, recovering from wounds at the Alfonso Nunez Military Hospital. "Although we were surprised as we slept, we repelled the attack, which lasted almost 3 hours. I withdrew because I was wounded," he added.

Vargas that said an "11-year-old boy was also assassinated by the guards." This report was not yet confirmed yesterday because the attack took place deep in a mountain area.

Yesterday morning, Jose Abel Gomez Diaz, from La Pinuela, was undergoing surgery and in critical condition. His brother Jose Humberto, chief of the military company who was also wounded said: "It was an indiscriminate action. It would not have mattered if they had faced us alone, but they attacked a peasants' house with children; all of them were civilians."

Jose Humberto recalls that "amid the shooting civilians shouted to the contras not to fire at their house. Some civilians left for the forest and others remained inside. The owner of the house was assassinated," he noted.

Humberto's mother said: "For a while I was very worried. We thought Abel would not live to dawn. Now he is undergoing surgery. They do not realize how much we mothers suffer. No one wants anything to do with the guards, because of their cruelty with the people and the peasants they kill."

She said: "We do not want to return to the past, especially when I see my sons' tragedy. It is better now that we have this civic struggle that shows that the government wants peace. The contras however, reject anything that is good."

Trinidad Lopez Sandino was also wounded. The doctor said Lopez lost part of his ear, and his right arm will be impaired.

Gerardo Saenz Montoya is also at the hospital recovering from shrapnel wounds. On Sunday, 8 October, he and his comrades were hit by a Claymore mine during a contra ambush in Mangas Largas sector, in Bluefields.

Antonio Suares Mejia, Roberto Rocha Morales, Rosalio Perez Vargas, Juan Daniel Martinez Gomez, Batardo Mercado Sandoval, and Magdaleno Mendez, as well as farmer Melanio Morales, who were killed in the criminal Kuskawas attack, were buried on 10 October in La Pinuela.

Panama

Foreign Minister on Relations With U.S.

PA1310152589 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam has said that his top priority will be maintaining the government's patriotic position of condemning the U.S. aggression against Panama.

[Begin Kam recording] I can tell you that I have a very important priority, which is to maintain—unwavering and unchanged—the government's patriotic position of expressing and condemning the U.S. aggression and intervention in our domestic affairs. Above all, I want the world to know the truth about Panama to try to offset the international disinformation and slander campaign the United States has launched against Panama.

I believe that we must devote much patience and work to rebuild the cooperative and friendly relations that Panama generally had with all countries.

The U.S. aggression has affected profoundly even some traditionally friendly countries. However, I think that to the extent that Panama's situation becomes known—to the extent that we may be able to reveal the truth about Panama—those governments will have to be receptive. Those governments must realize that because Panama is a victim of this U.S. aggression, those countries will become less and less safe, less independent, less sovereign and, unfortunately, will become increasingly vulnerable to imperialist actions. [end recording]

In regard to reestablishing relations with the United States, Kam said:

[Begin Kam recording] I believe that our position regarding the United States is clear. We favor a negotiated solution. We favor dialogue. However, the United States must stop intervening in our domestic affairs. The United States must lift economic sanctions against Panama. It has to promise to comply with the Torrijos-Carter treaties and, above all, it must respect us as a free, sovereign, independent country. It also has to realize that we are a patriotic people, willing to fight to the end. [end recording]

Says U.S. 'Blackmailing' Region

PA1510000389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2216 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 14 Jul (DPA)—Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam today accused the United States of "exerting strong pressure and resorting to blackmailing" Latin American countries to force them to "join the U.S. campaign of aggression against Panama."

Kam, who replaced Jorge Eduardo Ritter as foreign minister this week, said that Washington uses "means to

bend the will and consciences" of the nations of the continent with the aim of adversely affecting Panama.

However, the official said that the attitude of some Latin American governments contrasts the support given to Panama by other countries on the continent that have a deep-rooted sense of nationalism and respect for the principles of self-determination and nonintervention.

There is "a big difference between these governments' attitude and the feelings of the people," who support Panama in its current situation with the United States, Kam stated.

The foreign minister said that the government of Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez must work "patiently to counter the U.S. pressures and try to strengthen traditional relations with other countries."

Spain's Gonzalez Offers Mediation Proposal

PA1310192489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1515 GMT 13 Oct 89

[By Andreu Claret]

[Text] Panama City, 13 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—An offer to mediate in the Panamanian crisis made by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez' has been received with caution and skepticism by both the opposition and the government.

Gonzalez stated yesterday that new elections should be held in Panama based on an agreement between General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the country's "strongman," and the opposition.

Gonzalez' proposal, made days before meeting with U.S. President George Bush, includes an agreement for the general to leave the post of FDP military commander and stay in the country as "Noriega, the citizen."

Guillermo Endara, principal opposition leader, voiced his skepticism of the proposal today when he told ACAN-EFE that "Noriega will win time, he will make it appear as if he wants to negotiate, and then, in the end, he will say no, as has occurred other times."

Endara expressed his "deep appreciation" for Gonzalez' interest in "the tragedy of Panama," but was pessimistic about the possibility of obtaining a negotiated solution to the Panamanian crisis through Gonzalez' proposal.

"It is very important that Gonzalez speak with Bush about Panama," added Endara, who has always been critical of the U.S. policy toward Panama.

He declined to assess the proposal in detail, "before speaking with Guillermo Ford," another opposition leader who met with Gonzalez 15 days ago and stayed in the United States after the 3 October coup attempt against Noriega.

However, a fellow party member of Endara recalled that during that coup attempt, Noriega refused to accept the rebels' initial proposal that he leave his military command post and stay in the country.

"You're crazy," the general told Major Moises Giroldi, coup leader, according to conflicting reports of what occurred.

Government sources questioned by ACAN-EFE were very cautious about commenting on Gonzalez' offer, about which they had reservations and various views. They prefer to wait for Noriega or President Francisco Rodriguez to state an official opinion.

Carlos Duque, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, told ACAN-EFE that "all efforts that lead to an agreement among Panamanians are welcome." However, he declined to go into detail regarding Gonzalez' proposal, saying that "the opposition rejected a proposal to hold new elections" during the unsuccessful dialogue between the opposition and the regime between June and August, which was sponsored by the OAS.

A Noriega aide expressed the "personal" opinion that the proposal appeared to be "reasonable, interesting, and respectful," because, in his opinion, "it is based on the reality of the general's presence."

According to the Noriega adviser, who participated in the negotiations promoted by the OAS, "Gonzalez has realized that Noriega cannot be ousted at the whim of the United States."

However, another personality within the regime, a former foreign minister who is considered to be a "moderate nationalist," expressed skepticism and remarked that "Felipe is not on the right track."

"He has not included the gringos in the proposal," the source added, urging that the Spanish leader explicitly criticize the "U.S. political, economic, and military interference in Panama."

The United States reacted positively to Gonzalez' proposal, but a State Department source also expressed skepticism today, telling EFE: "I do not believe Noriega could be happy in his country without continuing to interfere in government affairs."

More radical sectors of the Panamanian regime rejected the Spanish official's offer outright and, in a well-known radio program over a state radio station, Gonzalez was accused of interfering in Panama's domestic affairs.

"No matter how good Gonzalez' intentions are, it is not up to him to say whether or not Noriega should stay," one of the commentators said.

In diplomatic circles accredited in Panama, Gonzalez' proposal has generated great bewilderment and has been criticized for what many consider to be a "lack of realism."

Asking not to be identified, one ambassador commented to ACAN-EFE that "its only possible virtue is that it will worsen the divisions between Noriega and Rodriguez."

Observers attribute to Rodriguez a moderation that is in contrast to the radicalization of other sectors of the regime.

On 11 October, Rodriguez rejected "all kinds of sectarianism," denounced "vengefulness and revenge," and reaffirmed his commitment "to dialogue and consensus," in open contrast to a preceding speech made by Noriega.

U.S. 'Meddling' at Group of Eight Denounced

PA1410214689 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Station commentary: "New U.S. Diplomatic Failure"]

[Text] The maneuvers that the George Bush administration is making to isolate Panama diplomatically from Latin America are as evident as the failure suffered by the presidents of Peru and Venezuela when they tried to get Panama expelled from the Group of Eight.

At the third meeting of Group of Eight presidents, which was closed ahead of schedule on 13 October in the Peruvian city of Ica, the semiofficial spokesmen for U.S. imperialism, Alan Garcia and Carlos Andres Perez, tried to secure the necessary agreement to expel Panama from the regional organization, but they ran into the straightforward position of Brazil and Mexico, whose presidents opposed such an evil proposition.

It is true that our country was suspended temporarily as a member of the Group of Eight in February 1988 when it was argued that the domestic situation in Panama justified this decision, but it is also true that the aides of imperialism, Garcia and Perez, did not secure the agreement they needed for the expulsion because the other members respected Panama's situation as a founding member of the group.

Another factor that worked against the U.S. attempt to isolate Panama—aided by Peru and Venezuela, who adhere strictly to U.S. orders—was the ever-increasing and shameless meddling of the Bush administration in Panama's domestic affairs, which is something that the Latin American people and governments are aware of and they have not turned their backs on us in spite of imperialist pressure.

In view of the obvious defeat, the president of Peru, who felt that he had been belittled by his colleagues and that he had no support, resorted to mockery and sarcasm to evade a direct question from journalists, who asked who had proposed Panama's expulsion from the Group of Eight. That is how President Alan Garcia reacted when he was repeatedly asked about the expulsion of Panama.

Visibly nervous, sarcastic, and assuming an improper demeanor for a head of state, Alan Garcia told the media: I do not recall who proposed it. Later on he insisted that revealing who had made the proposal would be an act of disloyalty.

A few days before the presidential meeting, however, Peruvian Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco had said that President Garcia would propose to his Group of Eight counterparts the expulsion of Panama. The Venezuelan Government had already said that President Carlos Andres Perez would do the same.

Another farce mounted by the Bush administration against Panama, a farce that was duly backed by its lackeys—Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez—is now exposed.

New U.S. Army 'Aggression' Reported in Arraijan

PA1410005489 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2334 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] This morning, U.S. Army troops once again openly entered Panamanian territory. A column of tanks escorted by a helicopter traveled to Arraijan District through the Pan-American Highway without the proper coordination with the Panamanian military authorities.

Four U.S. artillery-equipped tanks passed through Arraijan to the port of Vacamonte before the astonished eyes of many Panamanians who were surprised by this new aggression against Panamanian territory. By entering sovereign Panamanian territory, which is not even included in the canal treaties, human lives were endangered. They not only violated our airspace, but also international principles established in the UN and OAS Charters.

The presence of U.S. troops on the main highway that links the interior of the country with the capital caused great nervousness as they passed through such communities as Loma Bonita, Vista Alegre, Bique, Nuevo Chorrillo, Arraijan, and Rio Indio. They then entered the mountains of Cerro Silvestre, Caceres, and Veracruz. Many innocent lives were endangered as the U.S. soldiers passed through Panamanian territory. The presence of the U.S. armored vehicles was repudiated and criticized by poor Panamanians, who felt humiliated by the arrogant U.S. action against a small country.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Southern Command, which is illegally stationed in our country, is virtually preventing the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] from carrying out maintenance tasks on the Panama-Llano Sanchez 230,000-volt lines in the Cocoli area. The IRHE national transmission office has charged that this has caused nationwide outages or blackouts. The Cocoli area, which is where the 7 and 10 October outages originated, is under the control of the U.S. Government, which denies IRHE the right to carry out its maintenance work.

14 Reported Dead in U.S. 'Phantom War' Accident

PA1510182589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 15 Oct 89 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Report by Ernesto Quijada Diaz]

[Text] Fourteen people were killed and an unspecified number were injured as the result of an accident in front of Paraiso, a reverted area, on the morning of 14 October. The accident involved a large number of vehicles and soldiers in the "phantom war" that the invading U.S. Army is staging against Panama.

Witnesses reported that 12 U.S. Army and Panama Canal Commission [PCC] ambulances, as well as soldiers in battle gear and civilians, arrived at the scene of the accident.

LA REPUBLICA photograpers took pictures of the site with telephoto lenses, despite the secrecy and the security measures taken by the invading army at the area of the disaster.

The unusual activities of soldiers with sophisticated equipment, Cobra helicopter landing troops, soldiers in Hummer vehicles, fire fighters with Army and PCC first aid equipment, and plainclothesmen had been observed since approximately 1000 on 14 October.

The uncommon movement caused unrest among the residents of Paraiso, Ancon Corregimiento, from where the movement of ambulances and official Army and privately owned vehicles could be observed with relative ease.

Although the area of the disaster, which crosses the canal through the Pedro Miguel Locks, is soley for U.S. Government use, reporters for this newspaper managed to observe some details of this tragic accident in this phantom war of the invaders against the peaceful and unarmed Panamanian people.

At least 14 were killed and more than 40 wounded, many of them seriously, in what presupposes an explosion of deadly explosive devices in the area of the disaster of this crazy war.

At press time, several helicopters of the invading army were still overflying the area of the disaster, and military personnel had occupied the entire sector. Although the site is difficult to access, the movement of tractors and heavy earth-moving equipment was observed from a distance, working to recover the victims of this disaster, which adds one more accident to the accidents that have occurred recently because of the lack of experience of young soldiers who have come to this country to wage a war that does not exist.

FDP Official Denounces 'Disinformation'

PA1310144389 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 12 Oct 89 pp 1, 22

[Letter from Captain Severino Mejia, head of the Panama Defense Forces Commander's Operations Center, to LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA Director Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque—dated 10 October 1989 in Panama City]

[Text] Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, director of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA:

Once again, the Panama Defensse Forces [FDP] reject reporter James Aparicio's usual manipulation of information. He does this with news, alleged statements, or by exaggerating and highlighting information from foreign news agencies that carry disinformation.

It is time for government and private media to show some respect and to refrain from expressing opinions on the ecclesiastical authority of any faith, magistrates of the Judicial Branch, the FDP staff, national security, and the private matters of the president.

We, therefore, denounce the journalistic speculation that your reporter indulges in through the credibility of the newspaper you direct.

We do not accept praise for the FDP, and we demand nonintervention in our organizational system, which is based on the security mechanisms of a military institution born with the Republic and that will live as long as the Republic lives, in which the leaders are mere accidents in time and space. Everything for the fatherland. Panama City, 10 October 1989. [Signed] Capt Severino Mejia, head of the Commander's Operations Center

Journalist Answers Charges

PA1410124889 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Oct 89 pp A-1, B-6

[Letter to Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, director of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, by LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA staff writer James Aparicio, dated 11 October 1989]

[Text] Dear Mr Director:

I was surprised to read in today's issue a letter from Captain Severino Mejia, chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] Operations Center and director of the Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate (DEPAT), in which he rejects this newsman's alleged "manipulation of information."

Exercising my right to a response, and with due respect to you and to this newspaper where I have been working for 2 years, I will now clarify, without any desire to engage in polemics, the concepts that were so nonchalantly expressed by Capt Mejia.

As a reporter for LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, chief correspondent of Agence France Presse (AFP), and executive of the Foreign Correspondents Association, I try to conduct my work in a manner marked by its professionalism, prudence, and respect.

I reject as false Capt Severino Mejia's letter, which, while not referring to any report in particular, accuses me of habitually engaging in an alleged, unspecified practice.

Without knowing to what information Capt Mejia is referring, I presume it was published this week in LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA. His letter makes dangerous recommendations like, "It is time for government and private media to refrain from expressing opinions on the

ecclesiastical authority of any faith, magistrates of the Judicial Branch, the Panama Defense Forces general staff, national security, and the private matters of the president."

Such statements, Mr Director, are typically fascist, seeking to censure independent media for the mere fact that it does not play into the hands or does not go along with the plans of those who hold or wish to hold power.

I find Capt Mejia's letter to be exaggerated and out of context, as it even portrays me as a dangerous criminal who sets out to destroy (I do not know whom) with "journalistic speculation."

In journalistic, diplomatic, business, religious, political, and even military circles, possibly to the annoyance of Capt Mejia (whom I would like to know personally and not through letters sent to a third party), I am "infamous" for being honest, prudent, responsible, hard-working, critical, independent, and most of all, a profound patriot with a great love for our suffering people, from whose ranks I rose through effort and courage.

I reject once and I reject a thousand times these accusations. That is why I advise Capt Mejia to read Julius Fucik, whose book "At the Foot of the Gallows" reminds us we are truly humans when we strive for the cause of liberty and life.

As far as I am concerned, Mr Director, I am a nationalist, I love my country, and I think in Spanish. Moreover, I can assure you I will not lay down my sword before those who think they have exclusive rights to the truth.

May history be the judge, and not a letter sent to third parties that James Aparicio will face head-on the sources of all the evils of this country.

I conclude this letter with a phrase by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, which I seek to make my own: "I do not use a machinegun or a pistol; reason is my pistol and my machinegun."

With best regards,

James Aparicio

Spanish Journalist Accused of 'Disinformation'

PA1510042689 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 14 Oct 89 pp 1, 11

[Text] Spanish disinformer Antonio Cano, of Spain's EL PAIS newspaper, has been receiving money for his articles about Panama, and his current sources of disinformation are evil local traitors who control the cash registers that contain the money taken away from Panama and whose contacts reach capitals of neighboring countries that are allied to the foreign aggressor.

The investigations triggered by Antonio Cano's disgustingly fantastic press dispatches have uncovered witnesses who can attest to the fact that this pseudo-journalist sold his soul to the devil for the ridiculous sum of $10,000 to write his most recent libelous and disinforming article, which appeared in the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS.

The price for vilifying and thrashing the dignity of this country, which has always treated him with consideration and respect, was $10,000 on this occasion. He received cash payments of $5,000 before writing his journalistic vomit, and he received the balance today.

Antonio Cano is the same man who—before the dirty money rotted his soul and filled his pockets with manure—wrote in a professional, objective, and courageous manner about the great truth in Panama. One of his most significant articles was entitled "The Revolution of the Volvos and the Mercedes Benzes."

Later on, his previously mentioned objectivity waned in the same proportion to the dollars he received, which made it possible for him to afford vacations in Europe and later on to live much more comfortably than his Spanish colleagues in Mexico City.

In addition to being the dregs of mercenary journalism and being on an illicit payroll, especially from Caracas, Antonio Cano must be aware that his nocturnal flings in some parts of the capital, along with people who have bizarre habits—including snorting habits—have already been noticed by his comrades as well as by those who will accuse him at the moment when the full force of justice and the law punish him because of his activities beyond the typewriter.

What a sad role for a journalist from the mother country who humiliatingly ended up in the sewage of disinformation and disgrace.

Receives 'Threatening' Calls

PA1410015289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0113 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 13 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Antonio Cano, correspondent for the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS, went to his embassy in Panama City tonight after receiving what he described as "threatening" telephone calls from officials and military men.

Cano, 32, who has been covering Panama and other Latin American countries for the past 5 years, told ACAN-EFE that an officer of the Defense Forces called him at his hotel to tell him that there was a charge against him and that he would be arrested because of a recent article published by EL PAIS.

Cano added that he also spoke with Government and Justice Ministry officials who urged him to present himself at the ministry's office, and that because of this he decided to go to the Spanish Embassy and ask for Ambassador Tomas Lozano's help.

Embassy sources told ACAN-EFE that Lozano is making efforts to resolve the journalist's situation.

Cano arrived in Panama on 4 October, shortly after the failure of a coup attempt against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, and he had planned to travel to San Jose, Costa Rica on 15 October.

On 8 October, EL PAIS published a lengthy article entitled "The General in His Labyrinth."

Several foreign correspondents have received warnings or official reprimands in the past few days regarding their reports on the Panamanian situation after the failure of the coup against Noriega.

Cano has visited Panama many times since the 1984 elections, and he has interviewed Gen Noriega several times.

Leaves for Costa Rica

PA1410234489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2205 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 14 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Antonio Cano, correspondent for the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS, who yesterday sought refuge at the Spanish Embassy after being threatened, today left Panama City for Costa Rica.

Cano was able to leave the country after the arrest warrant against him was changed to a deportation order following efforts made on his behalf by Spanish Ambassador to Panama Tomas Lozano.

The Spanish newsman was accompanied to the Omar Torrijos Airport in Panama City by Ambassador Tomas Lozano and by a high-ranking civilian official of the Panama Defense Forces.

Before boarding the plane to Costa Rica, Cano told ACAN-EFE that he "deeply regretted leaving a country like Panama, which I love very much, under these circumstances."

The deputy government and justice minister yesterday issued an arrest warrant for the correspondent of the Spanish newspaper, because he "published false news involving high-ranking government officials."

After receiving various telephone calls from the Government and Justice Ministry and from an FDP officer, Cano sought refuge at the Spanish Embassy and requested Lozano's mediation to leave Panama.

Police agents showing the arrest warrant yesterday went to the hotel in which Cano was staying and thoroughly searched the hotel for the newsman.

Everything seems to indicate that the serious charges against Cano are linked to the lengthy report published in the 8 October issue of "EL PAIS" entitled "The General in His Labyrinth," which reports in detail on Panamanian "strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the FDP commander in chief.

Departure 'Authorized' by Noriega

PA1510031589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0120 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 15 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—According to diplomatic sources, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panamanian Defense Forces [FDP], personally authorized the departure from this country of Spanish journalist Antonio Cano, against whom an arrest warrant had been issued.

Cano, correspondent for the Spanish newspaper El PAIS, today traveled to Costa Rica following the mediation of Spanish Ambassador to Panama Tomas Lozano, who spoke personally on several occasions with President Francisco Rodriguez and Noriega through FDP Major Edgardo Lopez.

Sources close to Noriega told ACAN-EFE that Noriega allowed the arrest warrant to be replaced by a deportation order out of "respect for Spain."

An individual who enjoys Noriega's utmost trust went to the Spanish Embassy, where Cano had taken refuge on 13 October, to escort Cano, along with Ambassador Lozano, to the airport to guarantee his departure from the country.

An arrest warrant was issued on 13 October against the correspondent for "publishing false news involving high-ranking state officials."

Cano sought refuge on 13 October at the Spanish Embassy and asked the Spanish ambassador to mediate after receiving several phone calls from the ministry [not further identified] and from an FDP officer.

Shortly before leaving Panama, which he has visited on numerous occasions, Cano told ACAN-EFE: "I regret having to leave Panama, which I love dearly, under these circumstances."

Upon arriving in San Jose, Costa Rica, Cano told ACAN-EFE: "I never tried to harm any Panamanian authority," adding that he "regrets" the circumstances that surrounded his departure.

Cano reaffirmed that he feels "great affection" for the Panamanian people, with whom he has maintained a lengthy relationship, and attributed the regime's reaction against him "to the tension and uncertainty that exists in the country."

On 14 October, the main regime newspaper described Cano as a "mercenary of the pen" and accused him of receiving $10,000 from regime opponents to "vilify and thrash the country's dignity," an accusation that Cano rejected categorically.

The newspaper CRITICA described Cano's professional work as "journalistic vomit" and accused him of using

"evil local traitors" as his "disinformation sources" to write his "disgustingly fantastic press dispatches."

Everything indicates that the serious charges leveled against Cano are related to a lengthy report published on 8 October in EL PAIS entitled "The General in His Labyrinth," which reports on Noriega, the country's "strongman."

Commentators on Government's New 'War Measures'

PA1410141889 Panama City Radio Verbo in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Oct 89

[From the "Opinion Pulse Program" with Aristides Gomez, Professor Tenorio, and unidentified commentator—live]

[Text] [Gomez] Good morning. This is Aristides Gomez. We have just heard the communique read by Presidency Minister Augusto Valderrama on behalf of the government. The measures adopted are truly war measures, measures that in one way or another will contribute to cutting back the government's operations cost. I believe that the first point broached in the communique, the wage increases and so forth, is quite logical for a country living in a state a war. In such a country there can be no wage increases, much less wage adjustments for time in service and so forth. Even though these are measures that in one way or another affect all government employees, if we wish to continue getting paid, then we must adopt drastic measures to prevent other expenses because we are currently experiencing a situation in which the state must use all the means it has to survive as a state and also, it is a matter of prevailing as a patriotic state.

Regarding the permanent allowances, there is no doubt that these had to be abolished. Much money goes into those permanent allowances. I can tell you that at the University of Panama, where I work, every Wednesday when the Academic Council met, thousands of dollars were disbursed. According to the Academic Council, the law allowed them to do this. For example, we know of the case of Professor Hipolito Donoso who recently was given $4,000 in allowance. I do not know why he was given that money. The truth is that they continue to increase their salaries. For example, the director of finance was given a special allowance retroactive to June. These are things that are happening at the University of Panama and this adds up to thousands upon thousands of dollars disbursed each week. We can also mention the enormous amounts spent on traveling all over the place. Huge amounts of money go into this. I hope the university authorities heard this communique issued by the government, by the Panamanian state—let us not talk about the government but the Panamanian state—and that they will abide by it because they claim that they are autonomous and that the law does not apply to them. They use their autonomy to attack the government and the state, but when the state adopts measures then they claim that the autonomy has been violated. They use the autonomy. I really think it was time for some measures to be adopted.

Now for the 13th-month bonus: It was certainly urgent and necessary to eliminate this because our economy has been mercilessly beaten by U.S. imperialism. Professor Tenorio, you will remember that last year through this station I said this allowance had to be gotten rid of provisionally for economic reasons. Every 13th-month payment involves millions of dollars that the country cannot pay at this time. Not only that, once the 13th-month bonus was received by the employees, it ended up in the businessmen's hands. It was not used in production but to buy things from businessmen.

[Tenorio] Most of it was sent abroad.

[Gomez] Right. There was a flight of capital because these people have accounts in the Cayman Island and other places. There was a transfer of money to other countries. The measure, although unpopular, was necessary in the state of war in which the country is. We know for sure that these measures are not pleasant. They are, however, survival measures because they guarantee a permanent salary for public employees and preclude the need for firing them. This is what we want to avoid.

[Tenorio] Regarding the 13th-month bonus, Dr Gomez, you who are a specialist on economic matters can shed light on this. When this 13th-month payment was being considered, I was living abroad and closely connected with financial authorities. There used to be a lot of discussion about this issue. I used to discuss this matter with a Panamanian who graduated from the Pan-American Institute and was the vice president of the First National City Bank.

Foreign economists could hardly understand how Panama, a country with so little money, could afford to pay this extra amount to both public and private employees. It appeared that it would be difficult to continue to apply this measure for a number of years.

[Gomez] It is difficult for the government. Nevertheless, it is also presently difficult for private enterprise, which is taken into consideration in normal accounting procedures. It is very difficult for the government, however, and much more now when the country is in a state of war. I was not in the country when the 13th-month payment was being discussed, but I was at the Presidency when two of the 13th-month payments were eliminated. It was later reinstated as the result of a FENASEP [National Federation of Associations and Organizations of Public Employees] effort. We must keep in mind, however, that these are not normal times. In addition, the minister clearly said that it was a temporary suspension. This means that, once the country's economic activities return to 1984-1985 levels, this and other payments will again be made. These adjustments, although unpopular, are a state necessity. They will ensure that public employees keep their jobs and salaries.

[Tenorio] Again, it is most ironic that it was private enterprise employees who initiated a rebellion that made all of these measures necessary. This is something of a boomerang.

[Commentator] This is a (?revision) of the central government's economic policy. This is an effort to preserve the jobs of public employees, yet be able to offer to the Panamanian community all of the necessary services, such as health, water, electric, and energy.

[Tenorio] If salary increases, permanent travel allowances, and 13th-month payments continue to be paid, it will be impossible to offer the basic services. These measures are unpopular, yet necessary for the proper operation of the state. We must keep in mind that we are dealing with the survival of public employees and their jobs.

[Commentator] We are in a time of crisis. Even so, we have seen the central government comply with all of its obligations thus far, including the 13th-month payment. Bear in mind, this kind of payment is not paid in other countries even during times of abundance. Despite the difficulties, the government has not fired employees en masse. These dismissals did occur in private enterprise, which has taken advantage of the situation to fire a number of employees. As the general said in his 5 October speech, it is necessary to create these laws to ensure better service by employees and their salaries.

[Gomez] The government considered three basic aspects for public employees: competence, or should I say productivity, loyalty, and morality. The decree contemplates 14 possible causes for dismissal. Let us consider an example. When the state of Israel was created in 1947, they had to start from scratch. At present, it is the Middle East's most powerful state with high productivity and technology. Israel is a great exporter, although it has been a state for only 50 years.

[Tenorio] It has been said that the state of Israel was sponsored, to a certain extent, by the British and U.S. empires, so it could become the largest Mediterranean military base and a political bastion against...

[Gomez, interrupting] I do not want to consider these things.

[Tenorio] I mean the empires financed Israel to such an extent that it was not too difficult for this state to achieve this level of development.

[Gomez] Israeli officials used their initiative to develop state productivity. Its leading officials held the truly key positions in the government.

English Program on 'War Laws'

PA1410150089

[Editorial Report] Panama City Radio Tic Tac in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 12 October carries a live 1-hour program in English commenting on the recently promulgated "war laws," with the participation of former Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] Legislator Rigoberto Paredes, and two other English-speaking interlocutors identified as Henriquez and Drummond.

The program begins with Paredes saying: "The reason why we call these war laws is because the Bush government has declared war on Panama. The Reagan government first, and then afterwards the Bush government received powers of war to act against Panama and they have been acting in the military, economic—with an economic aggression—political, and diplomatic fields. Actually, it is a terrorism of state or state terrorism that the U.S. Government has deployed against Panama, doing lots of harm to our economy."

Paredes then adds: "Therefore, we have adopted already seven or eight war laws. We call them war laws not because these laws are a declaration of war against the United States or any country, because Panama is a nonbelligerent nation; we are a peaceful nation."

He goes on to say: "We are being attacked, and the United States is using, has initiated, and maintained a war. Some people call it low-intensity war, but we consider that it is more than low-intensity, it is high-intensity war because the economic aggresssion can be even worse than the military war, because it affects people, innocent people, it affects women, it affects children, civilians; people are experiencing hunger in Panama, and there is little medicine; people are falling sick and some people die because they do not get the necesssary medicine or medical attention. All this is due to the economic aggression and diplomatic isolation that is being promoted against Panama."

Paredes further states that as General Noriega said at the installation of the people's government: "These are called war laws, but actually it does not mean that we are going to kill anyone with them, nor that we are going to take away property from owners. We call these war laws because it is a way of fighting poverty—war against poverty, ignorance, and illness."

Later Paredes says: "Somebody is throwing punches at us, so we must become fit to defend ourselves, and of course, if we have to hit back, w vill hit back. For the time being, we are preparing ourselves to fight internal enemies also, because the influence, the money influence, the cultural and political influence of the United States upon part of the population, mainly those middle-class, high middle-class, and up, has been very important."

He then adds: "We have been receiving from these Panamanians a counterrevolutionary action. They have been acting on behalf of and in favor of the aggressor; therefore, that makes them traitors."

He continues: "Therefore, these laws are also intended to nullify the effects of the traitors, of the internal traitors. We are fighting against an external enemy, because the Bush government has declared itself our enemy; therefore, we have to fight, we have to defend ourselves against its attacks. Also, internally, we have to defend ourselves against those that work or act in favor of the foreign government's interests and against the Panamanian people's interests. This is the nature of the laws."

On his turn, Henriquez says: "The name war laws does not have to scare anybody," because "there is no military aggression in these war laws, or anything; they are just purely civilian laws, and the government of Panama is trying to become more flexible to cope with the situation."

For his part, Drummond says that, "I want to assure the members of the different lodges, not only the auto mechanics to which I belong, but other fraternal organizations, that they have nothing to fear from the laws of the government," because they are for the organizations that belong to the servilistas [derogatory term for opposition members].

Commenting on the law on associations, Paredes says: "This law on associations is very clear. All it says is that associations have their rules and regulations," which are "registered at the Ministry of Government and Justice."

Paredes adds that, "every association must abide by its programs and bylaws," but "this does not mean that the Lions Club, Rotary Club, or the Elks, etc, are going to stop existing; in other words, this does not eliminate them."

He further adds: "Before, the problem was that some so-called civic associations became something like political parties." He stresses that he was happy that this matter was brought up, as it was one of the laws that could cause more concern among people of West Indian descent, who belong to several lodges.

Paredes then refers to another law dealing with public employees, saying that, "you can lose your job if you incur in violation of any of 14 causes," including "participation in activities of political or other nature in favor of a foreign power or nation and against your own country, or in seditious political activities or movements that are against the interests of the Panamanian people."

Paredes then explains other "urgent economic laws," such as the temporary freezing of salaries and suspension of the 13th month bonus.

Concerning abrogation of the law creating the Ministry of Education's Personnel Board, Paredes said that with this law "we want to make sure that teachers and professors who are employed in our schools are patriots and nationalistic-minded, and will work toward an education for liberation, not slavery."

Regarding the 3 October foiled coup, Henriquez says: "That is why the U.S. President is having a lot of problems with the U.S. Congress, too, because they have found out that he is lying to them too."

In that regard, Paredes says: "We have an economic crisis created by the U.S. Government's aggression; however, we do not have any political crisis right now."

He adds: "The political crisis has been transferred to the United States. They have a political crisis because of what they are doing in Panama, against Panama."

He further adds: "The people who conform to the U.S. Government are clashing among themselves and criticizing each other."

Paredes goes on to say that "this is very important now, that we convey this message to the military here in the canal zone, because they too, are the victims of a system that really does not give much importance even to their lives," because "they have come to a country that has not declared war on the United States, that has done no harm to the U.S. Government, or its people." He stressed that a dozen or more have died in accidents in Panama, without Panamanians firing a single shot.

At the end of the program, Henriquez says that this is a new program that will be aired daily from 1200 to 1300. He adds: "We hope all the English-speaking listeners in Panama and the canal zone, and all the young military and civilians can hear both sides of the story so that they can have their own opinions and so that they can write to their political constituents in the United States and tell the truth about Panama. That is the idea of the program."

Education, Business Leaders Critical

PA1410014889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0005 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 13 Oct (DPA)—Nestor Mendez, secretary general of Panama's Association of Professors, said today that the "war" laws promulgated by the government of President Francisco Rodriguez "will further deteriorate the country and, unfortunately, will also lead the nation to a civil war."

He said that the Rodriguez administration issued a package of laws to "face U.S. aggression" that includes a freeze in wage increases, suspension of a public employee bonus, new measures to regulate the right of assembly, the elimination of the teacher's personnel board, and the introduction of 14 new reasons to fire government employees.

Professor Nestor Mendez said that "instead of hurting the U.S. Government, which the government identifies as its enemy, the war laws are actually hurting the Panamanian people and public employees."

The education leader believes that the new legislation will "cause an explosion that no one and nothing will be able to stop," because the people will react once there are no more "options and there is hunger."

Mendez said that the foiled coup against General Manuel Antonio Noriega 10 days ago is being used as "justification to fire a large number of public employees."

The secretary general of the Association of Professors described the government's actions as "desperate, because they are supported by nothing more than arms."

He said that various associations are being contacted to establish a "common struggle front" to face the measures of the Rodriguez administration. Mendez ruled out the

possibility that the teachers might declare a unilateral strike, because such an action would help the government destroy the teachers' movement.

Meanwhile, Carlos Abadia, leader of the Panamanian physicians, said that they "will not allow a trampling on their rights" or an attempt to ban them from expressing their views on the country's situation, as is the case with a law regulating the right of assembly, which prohibits organizations such as his from making political statements.

For his part, Jose Raul Mulino, president of the Association of Business Executives, said that the government's new laws aim to "categorically prohibit associations from expressing their views on the nation's political crisis."

Mulino added that his organization is assessing the situation, but added that the associations will continue to "exercise their right to comment on both good and bad developments in Panama."

Government, Justice Minister 'Forced' To Resign

PA1310221489 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 2110 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] This is a last minute report for Radio Impacto from the Republic of Panama regarding Government and Justice Minister Olmedo Miranda's resignation. It was rumored since early this afternoon that Government and Justice Minister Olmedo Miranda had presented his resignation, but nobody knew why.

However, we have discovered for the "Impacto Newscast" that Olmedo Miranda resigned because he lifted the curfew last night without consulting narcomilitary leader Manuel Antonio Noriega, who immediately forced him to resign.

Olmedo Miranda resigned because he broke narcomilitary leader Noriega's rules by lifting the curfew. Apparently the dictator did not want the curfew lifted.

It will now be said that Miranda is resigning because he is sick or for some other reason. They will try to cover up the problem. The reality is that a personal struggle between Olmedo Miranda and dictator Noriega provoked the minister's resignation.

Meanwhile, the resignation of Francisco Rodriguez, the imposed president of Panama, is also expected, because it was learned that he was in touch, from the United States on 3 October, with certain units that broke away from the coup against Noriega. This clearly shows that Rodriguez was monitoring the events in Panama from the United States before making a political decision. Rodriguez desperately wants to leave the Presidency of the Republic where he is being forced to issue and approve laws against the Panamanian people.

The regime's situation is very critical; the entire structure is shaking. Officials of the Republic's Presidency, especially imposed President Francisco "Pancho" Rodriguez, are involved in the military coup against Noriega. This clearly suggests that many ranking as well as lower-level officials desperately want to topple Noriega. Former Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter was also among those involved in the foiled coup against Noriega.

In other words, the regime is crumbling. We are all expecting the inevitable. The days of the Noriega regime are numbered. The dictator desperately wants to find out who the people against him are, but it happens that 80 percent of his troops are against him.

Says 'Health Reasons' Cause

PA1310215489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2126 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Panana City, 13 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian Government and Justice Minister Olmedo Miranda today submitted his "irrevocable" resignation to Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez due to "health reasons."

Miranda had been appointed minister on 3 September, 2 days after Rodriguez took office as provisional president. Miranda insisted that only "strictly personal reasons" forced him to resign.

"In addition, I have neglected my cattle-raising business," Miranda added.

New Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam took office on Thursday, replacing Jorge Ritter. Miranda's resignation brings to two the number of changes in the cabinet of Rodriguez, who has only been in office 6 weeks.

In a paragraph in his resignation letter, Miranda expressed to Rodriguez and to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Panama's "strongman," his thanks "for all the undeserved courtesies."

Miranda announced his resignation this afternoon [13 October] to all his subordinates and immediately left his office.

The Presidency released the minister's resignation letter without making any comment or announcing his replacement.

More on Minister's Resignation

PA1410000089 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2301 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Olmedo Miranda submitted his resignation today. In his letter to his excellency the president of the republic, Miranda informed him of his irrevocable decision to resign from the position for which he had been selected.

In his letter, Miranda said: Strictly personal reasons have compelled me to make this sad decision, as it was my earnest desire to contribute to the best of my abilities to my country's well-being, aware that today, more than

ever, our fatherland demands sacrifice from its nationals. However, in carrying out my duties I have experienced health problems and I have also not attended to my cattle business in Chiriqui, to which I have dedicated the last years of my life.

Miranda added in his letter: I wish to express to the other members of the cabinet, which you honorably lead, my respects and my utmost appreciation and gratitude for the way in which they reciprocated my attentions and friendship in joining efforts toward seeking solutions to the many problems affecting the Panamanian people as a result of U.S. aggression.

Once again, I express to you and to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, my sincere gratitude for all the undeserved kindness toward me. I reiterate to your excellency, the provisional president, my consideration and esteem, Miranda's letter concluded.

Pereira Named New Minister

PA1410000989 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2353 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Panamanian legal expert Renato Pereira was appointed government and justice minister this afternoon, replacing Olmedo Miranda who resigned today. The appointment was made through Decree No 5, which will enter into force on Monday, 16 October, when he will be sworn in by Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez. At the time of his appointment, Pereira had been serving as legal adviser to the Panama Defense Forces General Command. In addition, he is a well-known political figure.

FDP Announces Names of New Commanders

PA1510181089 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] In line with normal Panama Defense Forces [FDP] restructuring processes and development principles, the FDP General Command, through General Order No 193, issued on 12 October 1989, announces the following transfers:

Police Forces Commander Colonel Roberto Armijo, to the G-1 of the General Staff Deputy Chief's Office, as commander;
Major Rafael A. Cedeno, from the General Command, to the G-2 of the General Staff Deputy Chief's Office, as commander;
Major Anibal Maylin, of the 2d Military Zone, to the Police Force, as commander;
Major Mario A. del Cid, from the Cristobal Police Station, to the 2d Military Zone, as commander;
Captain Rafael Jurado, from the Benjamin Ruiz Officers Academy, to the Peace Battalion, as commander;
Captain Asuncion Gaitan Rios, from the Cimarron Military Training Center, to the Special Forces Operational Command.

Dignity Battalions To Work in Panama City

PA1410025589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 13 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] The Dignity Battalions have decided to put themselves at the service of Panama City Mayor Victor Hanono and to join development plans and programs sponsored by this municipality.

Mayor Hanono learned of this decision yesterday during a surprise visit by the Patriotic Command for the Coordination of Dignity [Comando Patriotico de Coordinacion de la Dignidad], made up of Commanders Enrique Thompson and Major Arturo Marquinez, retired, and General Staff Chief Guillermo Ledezma [title as published].

Also present during the visit was Deputy Mayor Olga Golcher.

The top ranking members of the Dignity Battalion and the mayor agreed to coordinate activities on maintenance, sanitation, and volunteer work, as well as other projects that will be carried out in Panama City.

It was stressed at the meeting that this willingness on the part of the Dignity Battalion members will prove, in a practical way, their true support for the activities of the Municipality of Panama City that benefit the community and the fatherland.

To Strengthen 'Community Work'

PA1510135089 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Commander Enrique Thompson, one of the main leaders of the Dignity Brigade's Patriotic Coordination Command, stated that this patriotic organization is going to strengthen its community work. The Dignity Brigade's main objective is to defend the fatherland. Commander Thompson stated:

[Begin Thompson recording] We having been forming units in the country's 510 corregimientos. These units will allow us to learn more about the communities' problems and attempt to solve them by organizing self-help programs. The Dignity Brigade's Patriotic Coordination Command agrees with the laws that have just been announced [words indistinct], because we consider ourselves at war—an undeclared war. We all feel the severe effects of this war that is being implemented by the United States with its economic, physical, and political intervention. The strengthening of our units at the community level will allow us to detect problems and attempt to attain solutions by organizing and promoting community groups. [end recording]

Education Minister on 'Positive' New Measures

PA1510133789 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Education Minister Juan Bosco Bernal has assured parents, students, and educational and administrative personnel that the elimination of the National Coordinating Commission, which will be replaced by the Ministry's Personnel Directorate, is a positive step. He said that the directorate will have the necessary technical and human resources to carry out the work efficiently. The minister added that the measure will hasten the designation of education and administrative personnel to the schools that require them, thus preventing classrooms from lacking professors or teachers weeks after the academic year has started. He stated his desire that union leaders understand that the measures were not taken to promote cronyism or to favor personal interests, but to establish a recruitment, selection, and designation process that takes into account a candidate's qualifications.

Also, the Education Ministry's Personnel Directorate hereby announces to all educators who are interested in participating in the first phase of the job selection process that the deadline to register is Monday, 16 October. This is the deadline for personnel to register in the permanent eligibility program and to update the documents of personnel who have already registered. Registration is a requirement to apply for a job in the educational system. The ministry expects to receive approximately 28,000 applications, and reminds candidates that credentials must be turned in before 1600 on Monday, 16 October.

Youth Movement Delegation Returns From Cuba

PA1510191989 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] The Activists for Peace Youth Movement delegation that recently visited Cuba reported there on Panama's cause by showing videocassettes and presenting pamphlets showing Panama's situation resulting from the U.S. aggression. Juan Mejia, national president of the movement, reports:

[Begin Mejia recording] We went to the sister Republic of Cuba primarily to strengthen the ties of friendship that exist between the young people of Panama and Cuba. There we had the opportunity to meet with international organizations that have offices in Cuba. One of these important organizations is the International Institute of Journalism, to which more than 50 Latin American journalists belong.

We were also received by the Committee of Solidarity with the People of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, from which we obtained a resolution of support that we have brought to the Panamanian people.

The General Secretariat of the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization made statements voicing unrestricted support for Panama.

Dr Guillermo Torriello Garrido, international president of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America [TANA], gave us an important resolution supporting our cause.

We always emphasized that the Panamanian people are a peaceful nation who want peace but who are allergic to foreign meddling that goes against the right of self-determination for a sovereign and free country.

We reported on what the United States really wants from Panama. It is not the elimination of any single man, but to continue administering the canal past the year 2000 because of our country's geographic position, so that the United States may continue controlling and attacking other Latin American countries.

In this report, we stated our deep gratitude to Mr Barletta, executive director of the Panamanian Foreign Trade Institute and general adviser of our movement, for having made available to us the means that were necessary to carry out this mission.

We have brought back documents that are very important for our people. We have a resolution of support from the Organization of Solidarity with the People of Africa, Asia, and Latin America; a declaration from TANA International President Dr Guillermo Torriello Garrido; a poem to heroic and combative Panama by William Medina Galan, an international writer who resides in Cuba; and books that students from the Federation of Students of the University of Havana have sent to the Panamanian people. We also brought back a poster painted by one of the most important international painters residing in Cuba. The poster deals with the objectives of Panama's national liberation cause and reads: Panama: Resist and win. [end recording]

ADOC Leaders To Attend Costa Rican Summit

PA1310211789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1956 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 13 Oct (DPA)—The three political leaders of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADOC), Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, and Guillermo Ford, will travel to Costa Rica to participate as "special guests" in the continental summit of presidents called by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias to commemorate 100 years of democracy in that Central American country.

Endara announced today that the invitation to attend this event, scheduled for 27 and 28 October, was made by the two primary Costa Rican political parties: the National Liberation Party and the Social Christian Unity Party.

"This represents a clear recognition of us as the true representatives of the Panamanian people, and a rejection of Mr Francisco Rodriguez and General Manuel Antonio Noriega," the former presidential candidate said.

Endara also said he was very grateful for Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez' interest in finding a peaceful solution to the Panamanian crisis. He said the opposition is willing to hold a dialogue with the military to discuss the removal of Gen Noriega; the recognition of the 7 May elections, which were annulled; and respect for human rights.

Gonzalez announced in Madrid that when he meets next week with U.S. President George Bush he will present a proposal to hold new elections in Panama. The elected government would have the authority to appoint the new army commander who will replace Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Human Rights Official Says 77 Killed in Uprising

PA1410005989 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City—The Panamanian Government will dismiss nearly one-third of its government employees in a purge of opponents after the failed military rebellion against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, a municipal official has reported.

Meanwhile, a human rights leader said that from telephone reports after the 3 October military uprising, it is believed that 77 people were killed rather than 10 as the Panama Defense Forces have reported. Raul Escoffery, executive director of the Panamanian Human Rights Committee, said that 200 people, not 37 as the authorities claimed, were arrested.

Giroldi's Widow on Failed Coup Attempt

PA1410195489 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1935 GMT 13 Oct 89

["Part I" of interview with Adela Bonilla de Giroldi, widow of Major Moises Giroldi, in Miami, date not given—passages with quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Events behind the scenes, before and after the thwarted effort to depose Panama's dictator, were revealed by Adela Bonilla de Giroldi, widow of the late Major Moises Giroldi, leader of the uprising on 3 October. Radio Impacto has obtained the first part of the interview with Mrs Giroldi, who arrived in U.S. territory and is safe and sound with her children. The first question for Mrs Adela Bonilla de Giroldi was why, what reasons did Giroldi have to organize a coup against Noriega? What is it that angered Moises Giroldi the most? Mrs Giroldi's answer was:

[Mrs Giroldi] "The corruption within the Panama Defense Forces [FDP]. He used to tell me, look, Nata [nickname], the commander spends the entire day drunk. When he is drunk, his advisers and other officers begin to tell him to remove such and such person for doing this or that. The commander then picks up the telephone and orders the removal of so-and-so and the placement of so-and-so [words indistinct].

He is not an operational commander. When he makes public presentations, he must first be injected by doctor [name indistinct] or one of them there. He receives the injection, rests a few minutes, and then gets up happy. You see?

Everytime Colonel Justines takes money to pay the units, he keeps money. The checks of troops that have been dismissed and are no longer in the FDP continue to be issued, the removal of troops is not reported to the Comptroller's Office. Everytime the money comes to pay the units, Justines takes $70,000 to $80,000—every 2 weeks.

A unit's money would arrive escorted by forces from the Urraca Company. Do you know what it is like to know that the money is there, but that they cannot be paid? The money would be there, but because he [Justines] would have to take out his share first, the troops could not be paid. Payments would be late and they would further delay paying the troops. How do you think the troops feel when they see inept colonels who only know how to sit at a table and talk about their finances, their (?villas), and their businesses, saying they want to buy this or that, a car, that pretty whatever; then at noon they have lunch, and at 1800 they leave?

Who takes care of the troops? Who watches over the needs of the troops? Who gets their meals to them when they work two shifts in a row or when they are confined to barracks? What happens at their homes when these things occur? There is no food on the tables. The soldier's wife calls and tells him that the light bill arrived or that there is no money to buy food for the family. He is tortured. The soldier is working, he knows there is no food at home, and his head is full of problems. [Words indistinct] Panamanian, is it not true? [Words indistinct] was fed up, fed up [repeats herself] at having to live in this situation; fed up with the fact that area chiefs only thought of filling their pockets. The officers' goal was to get to be area chiefs to get their piece of the pie and fill their pockets, but who thought about helping the residents of the area? The people? The citizens? The soldiers? There is enough money for all. However, the troops are only getting paid once a month. Generally this is the way it is; they are only getting paid once a month.

They get paid with a check that has to be changed at a supermarket because the bank does not change it. I do not know if FDP checks were changed at their savings bank [Caja de Ahorros], but I know my husband used to take approximately $2 million in cash to the FDP's Savings Bank [Caja de Ahorros de la Fuerza de Defensa]. Do I make myself clear? [Words indistinct] FDP's Savings Bank. Yes, they would take that amount to the FDP's Savings Bank every pay period. However, they would be late in paying out salaries. The FDP soldiers were paid last because Justines' payroll had to be paid first: purchase of race horses, expenses for his house, expenses for his mistresses, and things of this nature [words indistinct]."

After Adela de Giroldi, widow of Major Moises Giroldi, explained the unjust actions against the soldiers and the abuses committed by Colonel [word indistinct], we asked her how she found out her husband was going to conduct a coup against Noriega. When did she find out about the plan? Did she know the coup was coordinated by the United States? Here are the answers given by Giroldi's widow:

[Mrs Giroldi] "Giroldi told me about the coup on Friday, 6 October [corrects herself] sorry, on Friday, 29 September. He was worried. During the week I had seen him..."

[Reporter, interrupting] "Where did you see him like that? Here?"

[Mrs Giroldi] "At home, I saw him very worried that Friday night [29 September]. I asked him: What is wrong? He said: I am sick of it, I am tired of the situation at the FDP. I can no longer take it, he said to me. I asked him: What are you going to do about it? He said: Nata, I have decided to carry out a coup. I said: What? You have to think things over really well before doing something like that. He said: No, everything is coordinated already. I was not going to tell you about the coup until the last minute. However, he told me about his plans then because I was so concerned to see him so worried, and women, under these circumstances, usually start to imagine the worst. After that he told me: I have to contact the United States [words indistinct]."

Mrs Giroldi stated that she went to the canal zone a good time before the coup because contacts with the United States had been made 4 days prior to the moment, on 3 October, when her husband, Moises Giroldi, captured the dictator at FDP main headquarters. We asked Mrs Giroldi about her departure to Ft Clayton, in the canal area. How long is she [word indistinct]?

[Mrs Giroldi] "They [the United States and Moises Giroldi] had agreed as my husband wanted me to be there [Ft Clayton] to be able to carry out the coup with peace of mind and go through the days that were not going to be peaceful for Panamanians. He would then be at ease to work. The arms of these people [FDP] are very long and I suppose [FDP Lieutenant Colonel Nivaldo] Madrinan and [FDP Lieutenant Luis A] Papo Cordoba, and others would continue in the FDP if Noriega's head were cut off."

We recall that Moises Giroldi was one of Noriega's trusted men. He was in charge of security at the main FDP headquarters and one was even the godparent of the other's child. Mrs Adela Bonilla Giroldi, widow of the late Major Moises Giroldi, had ample information about everything that happened near the dictator. She even knows who had been planning to carry out a coup against Noriega or keep him drunk to continue to dominate him. She knows the civilian advisers close to Noriega who want to be president even without the dictator and those who are Noriega's strongest enemies in this group of advisers. Mrs Giroldi answered our queries thus:

[Mrs Giroldi] "They are [Hydraulic Resources and Electricity Institute Director Benjamin] Colamarco, [Agriculture Minister] Darien Ayala, [FDP Adviser] Renato Pereira, [Revolutionary Democratic Party (PRD) International Relations Secretary General] Nils Castro, and [PRD Secretary General] Darysnel Espino, among others. They all have [words indistinct] when he [Gen Noriega] is drunk. They take advantage of the situation and say what is to be done and what is not. They all give orders and get their friends into the right places."

We have heard the first part of the Radio Impacto's exclusive interview with Giroldi's widow, Mrs Adela Bonilla de Giroldi, in Miami. We will continue [words indistinct] in our next program to Central America, the Caribbean, and the world, as important details about the dictator and his chronic alcoholism are revealed.

Argentina

Foreign Minister Departs for Rome Meeting

PY1310223689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Oct (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo traveled this afternoon to the city of Rome, where he will participate in a meeting on relations between Latin America and Europe.

The official will return to Buenos Aires on 16 October, and on 17 October he will keep an eye on the meeting that Argentine and British diplomats will hold in Madrid.

Just before leaving Ezeiza International Airport, Cavallo said: As of 17 October "I am going to remain here to receive all the pertinent information that the negotiators are going to send us, and I will also be in permanent contact with the president to inform him of what is going on."

Regarding that meeting, Cavallo said: "No surprising results can be expected, but the important thing is to start the negotiating process and to start removing the obstacles to bilateral relations."

Regarding the Rome meeting, the foreign minister said: "It is a meeting that will evaluate relations between Latin America and Europe that has been organized by Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti." He said that he will address the meeting.

Regarding the recent Group of Eight meeting, Cavallo said: "We must highlight our country's proposal, which was accepted, of holding a meeting of the group's foreign and economy ministers in Buenos Aires on 4 and 5 November to prepare a program for the economic integration of Latin American countries."

He added: "It will be different from the efforts that have been made regarding integratic.ı because we are now seeking to agree on an overall and predetermined process to reduce customs tariffs that are currently an obstacle for intra-Latin American trade."

Ambassador Lucio Garcia del Solar departed on the same flight. Garcia del Solar, together with Jorge Vazquez, Argentine ambassador to the United Nations, will head the Argentine delegation that will meet with British diplomats in Madrid.

Navy Seizes Spanish Boat in Economic Zone

PY1310161689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2040 GMT 12 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 oct (NA)—Today, the Argentine Navy seized and escorted to port the Spanish fishing boat "Areaza Tres" while it was fishing within the exclusive economic zone.

A Navy news bulletin reports that during a routine patrol, the frigate "Ara Drummond" and an Electra search plane found the Spanish boat 193 miles from the Argentine coast.

The boat was caught with its fishing equipment fully deployed. It has a length of 67.04 meters, a width of 10.50 meters, a depth of 4.41 meters, a displacement of 1,210 tons, and a crew of 29 men.

The hold of the Spanish boat is filled with a cargo of unprocessed, processed, and semiprocessed squid, hake, and brotulid.

The Navy reports that the authorities established that the boat had clearly violated the fishing law.

Navy prefecture authorities will proceed accordingly.

Army Chief Appoints New Unit Commanders

PY1310214289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1229 GMT 12 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Oct (TELAM)—The Army chief of staff has appointed new chiefs of Army units throughout the country. The resolutions adopted by General Isidro Caceres affects the following lieutenant colonels who were appointed to the following posts. Regiment 5 in Paso de Los Libres, Alberto Poreserpio; Regiment 10 in Neuquen, Rafael Puig; Regiment 14, in Cordoba, Emilio Nazar; Regiment 16 in Mendoza, Rodolfo Jungo; Regiment 17 in Catamarca, Domingo Machado; Regiment 18, in San Javier, Misiones, Juan Mane; Regiment 20 in Jujuy, Hector Cerrato; Regiment 35 in Rio Mayo, Oscar Diaz; Regiment 37 in Rospenteck, Julio Quintero.

For the cavalry regiments: Armored Cavalry Regiment 1, in Villaguay, Jorge Alvarado; Armored Cavalry Regiment 2, in Olavarria, Roberto Puentes; Armored Cavalry Regiment 6, in Concordia, Eduardo Alfonso; Armored Cavalry Regiment 9, in Puerto Deseado, Alberto Luchessi; Armored Tank Regiment 10 in Azul Alfredo Ortiz; exploration detachment in Gualeguay, Carlos Silva; exploration detachment in Salta, Ernesto Linares.

For the artillery units: Armored Artillery Group 1 in Azul, Adolfo Cabrera; Group 4 in Cordoba, Jorge Gomez Pola; Artillery Group 5 in Jujuy, Gonzalo Gomez; Artillery Group 12, in Santo Tome, Luis Guma; Artillery Group 141 in Cordoba, Carlos Taffarel; Artillery Group 161 in Zapala, Gerardo Rivelli; 161 Air Defense Artillery Group in San Luis, Horacio Gonzalez.

For the engineering units: 601st Engineering Battalion in Villa Martelli, Reynaldo Symboli; 181st Engineering Battalion in Zapala, Eduardo Altuna; 161st Engineering Construction Battalion in Santiago del Estero, Raul Talento; and the 141st Communications Battalion in Cordoba, Guillermo Lagier.

According to a report in the newspaper CRONICA, some deputy commanders were also appointed to these

units. The following lieutenant colonels were also appointed: Marco Chretier as chief of the 21st Infantry Regiment; Lucas Castro as chief of the 26th Infantry Regiment; and Hector Argento as chief of the 161st Engineering Battalion.

Bolivia

Paz Zamora Returns From Summit in Peru

PY1410201589 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 11 Oct 89 p 7

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora described the meeting he held in Ica yesterday with Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Colombian President Virgilio Barco as successful because they decided to undertake joint action against drug trafficking. They also noted the need to respect the individual aspects of this problem in each particular country.

The president made this statement last night upon his return from Ica at 2009. He was accompanied by Foreign Under Secretary Javier Murillo, Social Defense Under Secretary Gonzalo Torrico, and Alternative Development Under Secretary Oswaldo Antezana.

The following officials received the president at the airport: Vice President Luis Ossio, Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos Iturralde, Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco, Information Minister Manfredo Kempff, and other government officials.

Soon after arriving at El Alto International Airport, President Paz Zamora said that the Bolivian people should remain calm "because our problem is much smaller than that of sister countries in the Andean region."

"I say that our problems are smaller but I am not underestimating them. Sometimes we magnify our problems which then overwhelm us. I mean that we can really solve our problems positively," the president said. He added that Bolivia should not be overwhelmed by this threat.

Paz said that the Ica meeting with the presidents of Peru and Colombia was another demonstration of the spirit that is being born in the region. "We were summoned specifically to talk about drug trafficking, and then we were joined by the presidents of Uruguay and Brazil with whom we discussed other subjects. Thus the meeting was not only about drugs since we also spoke about other problems connected with the needs of our countries."

The president said that the meeting "was successful, pragmatic, and short but productive. We three presidents were able to verify that the international community is heightening its awareness of the realistic aspects of the drug trafficking problem."

He said that three presidents agreed that drug trafficking "has a specific circuit with different phases such as the production of raw materials, marketing, distribution, and sale, and that each of these phases should be faced in realistic ways."

After the improvised 30-minute news conference at the airport, the president, accompanied by the ministers, went to his residence.

Venezuela's Perez Makes 3-Day Official Visit

Arrives 14 Oct

PY1410164089 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1400 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Live relay from the 71st Air Group military base in El Alto]

[Excerpts] The Venezuelan Air Force Boeing jet 001 carrying President Carlos Andres Perez has already landed in Bolivia. President Perez is accompanied by the Venezuelan foreign minister, Venezuelan legislators, and a press entourage. [passage omitted]

Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora has welcomed his Venezuelan colleague and they are now entering the military base's VIP room where, according to what has been reported, President Perez will take a short rest. [passage omitted]

The presidents will remain here for a few minutes and then board the two helicopters that are waiting to take them to Tiahuanaco.

We have been told that President Perez will be served coca leaf tea to counteract altitude problems. After a brief talk the two presidents will go to the helicopters that are waiting to take them to Tiahuanaco. [passage omitted]

Welcomed at Congress

PY1510023289 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 2155 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Speech by Vice President Luis Ossio Sanjines welcoming Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at the Legislative Palace in La Paz—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted on salutations] Your Excellency Carlos Andres Perez, on behalf of the Bolivian Congress I wish to extend to you our warmest welcome on your visit to Bolivia in your role of constitutional president of Venezuela.

Fourteen years ago you came to honor with your presence, the ceremonies marking the 150th anniversary of Bolivia's independence, the foremost achievement of two extraordinary Venezuelan citizens: Simon Bolivar, the liberator, and Antonio Jose de Sucre, the marshal of Ayacucho. Now, just as it did then, your visit has deep meaning for Bolivia—friendship and solidarity — because you, Mr President, are not only a friend of Bolivia, but also the staunchest champion of Bolivia's legitimate right to the sea outlet. For all this, for all the

consideration you have shown to us, this congress embraces you. Here you will feel the sincere affection and recognition of all the Bolivian people for whom Carlos Andres Perez is a beloved and respected brother.

I am sure that in the 14 years since your visit to our fatherland, you have been following closely the democratic process that we political, social, and civic leaders have been carrying out in our passionate quest for the great values of the democratic system, which is the proper way of life and the means to preserve peace and to attain development amid full respect and exercise of human rights. [passage omitted]

Because of your standing as a Latin American leader your visit to our country is, within the context of our political endeavors, an invitation to think about the democratic system in our subcontinent where there are still fraternal nations struggling to establish democratic societies. [passage omitted]

With regard to the need for integration of Latin American countries, the Bolivian Congress is fully confident that the coming meetings of foreign ministers and presidents of the Andean Pact will reach operational agreements of which you are not only a great champion but also a guarantor. [passage omitted]

May your stay in Bolivia be pleasant and may all say as they see you go by: Hail to the friend that carries the message of Latin American friendship, peace, and fraternal feelings. [applause]

Addresses Congress

PY1510224889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 2202 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Speech by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez to the Bolivian Congress at the Legislative Palace in La Paz—live]

[Text] Mr President of the Congress and Vice President of the nation, Mr President of the Senate, Mr President of the Chamber of Deputies, Your Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio, Messrs members of the diplomatic corps, Messrs representatives of the Armed Forces of Bolivia, Messrs senators and deputies, Brother Bolivians:

It is a great honor and privilege to visit and speak in this holy house of democracy, your National Congress. I am doing so at a time when we Latin Americans can say that we are definitely overcoming the sad stage of dictatorships and military uprisings. Latin America has been building a society in which the conflicts of the past are fading away. Soldiers and civilians are today walking hand in hand on the path of respecting the sovereign dignity of each of our fatherlands and of each and every man and woman who inhabits them.

This is something we seldom think about, but necessary for us to do. For a long time we have been victimized by a sociological pseudothesis that taught that Latin Americans did not have the will or the capacity to live democratically, that it was our fate to be ruled through force, by strong-arm governments, by dictatorial governments. This pseudotheory helped the powerful nations of the world—which were strengthening their own democratic systems—to justify their alliances and friendships with Latin American dictatorships.

Here in the southern part of our continent we can see the demise and collapse of this false theory, which a Venezuelan made an effort to describe euphemistically by combining two incompatible words; democratic caesarism.

Over the last few years, during the eighties, we have not seen uprisings by progressive military men and civilians to oust dictatorships, as has happened in the past, to pave the way for democracy in many of our nations. Rather, we have seen in Argentina and Brazil, to mention the two giants of Latin America, drives by the entire Argentine and Brazilian societies to impose their wills to return to democracy and to establish mechanisms for expressing the popular will. Even here, nearby, just beyond the borders of this great Bolivian fatherland, we have just seen a dictatorship defeated by the votes of its people. Tomorrow the sun will rise in democratic Chile, the democratic Chile we all long for. [applause] Stroessner's dictatorship, which once seemed mummified and entrenched, has disappeared from Latin America.

Let's remember this to avoid falling for pessimistic theories that have flourished in this land of ours. Today there are no grounds for pessimism; there is no room for these new skeptics who are telling us that we will not be able to pull out of our crises, that we will not be able to resolve the foreign debt problem or the drug trafficking problems, and especially that we will not be able to achieve integration because our divisions are fanned by the personalistict and individualistic nature that we Latin Americans flaunt so much.

Dear friends and brothers of the Bolivian Congress, the time has come for us to use the open-minded approach displayed by the forefathers and liberators whose memory we have honored in this hall today. Let us go forward. The great changes that make the histories of peoples do not take place overnight. By and large they are a slow and hazardous process. We have gone through stages and left them behind. We are now on the threshold of a stage that will be more fruitful and lasting for our peoples.

We frequently tend to emphasize the negative aspects of our fatherlands. We refuse to realize that throughout these years, despite all the drawbacks we have experienced in the course of our political, economic, and social evolution, we have made some progress. Latin America is today a great fatherland with little to envy as far as values and human resources are concerned, which should be envied for its natural and material resources. It is time for us to take the decisive steps toward our great destiny.

However, I would like to draw your attention to the special circumstances in each Latin American nation, in

all of them. We have been plagued by an economic crisis that has worsened social problems; to be more specific, using the more honest and ominous words, it has worsened hunger and misery in our countries.

This crisis has plagued all of us equally, large and small, and it is this very crisis that will lead us to the solutions that we have been delaying for so many years, even decades.

In the middle of crises great peoples resort to powerful forces of renewal and use willpower to defeat and overcome difficulties. This is Latin America's hour. The crisis will force us to take the course that we should have taken a long time ago. For this, however, we must realize that in our fatherland this is not the time for (?pointless) debate or squabbles among political parties. This is the time to say that the fatherland is above and beyond these quarrels, which we should postpone until we can truly say that we have a fatherland that enjoys absolute economic sovereignty. This sovereignty is now in serious jeopardy because of the prevailing circumstances.

In my country I based my electoral campaign speeches on the need for consensus and agreement. I believe that this is the only course for a nation that wants to make headway, because we must recreate the feats of our liberators. Had our peoples failed to unite then, we would have no fatherlands in Latin America.

My government staunchly continues its quest for agreement. We will move forward with our ability to implement this policy, which compels us to unite to strengthen our own countries so that later, having laid solid and firm foundations, we can move on to discuss specific problems within each of our countries.

I have heard similar remarks in the speeches that preceded mine and I want to echo them; I believe that Latin America cannot pass up this opportunity at a time when we are definitely strengthening our democratic process.

This decade of the eighties poses a contradiction. On one hand it has been negative in terms of the economies of our countries because national egoism made us think only of ourselves. We didn't realize that the crisis demanded unity. But, on the other hand, this decade that is about to end has been a decisive decade for Latin American democracy.

Starting from this foundation, let us actually build that which so far has been pure rhetoric. The topic that we all lovingly talk about but do not display the political will for is this: integration.

We have mentioned the Andean Pact, we have talked about the 25 years that have passed since its creation and about what little has been done in the way of Andean integration. We could also talk about the LAFTA [Latin American Free Trade Association], which is now the ALADI [Latin American Integration Association], and about the Latin American Parliament, which started out as an extraordinary ray of hope aimed at giving political content and the strength of popular struggle to the process of integration. It would now seem that we should accept the fact that these efforts have been pointless.

However, Messrs Bolivian Senators and Deputies, beware the preachings of the skeptics. Yes, it was worth it. Yes, we have made some headway. Yes, we are making our nations aware of the need for integration.

We should draw our lessons from history. The history of the peoples, of humanity, does not include great revolutionary changes that were accomplished overnight.

Today we look with admiration, even with a touch of fear, at the EEC, which is a tangible reality. However, that very same Europe had to endure two terrible wars, unbelievable holocausts. That very same Europe had to overcome hatreds that divided its people and dug trenches along the borders of its countries. It is this very same Europe that, after two wars, is displaying before our eyes this beautiful, extraordinary spectacle of unity, a community that even has a parliament with members elected by popular vote in each of the nations in the community.

Why can't we, who have not been divided by these wars and who have not had to live with these hatreds, do the same? Here we have an example to follow and a reason for saying that there are no grounds for skepticism in Latin America at this time.

Twenty-five years are nothing in the history of a nation. Ideas are always being born, ideas that will turn into words first and deeds afterwards in leading to Latin American integration. This is what we have to do now. The Andean Pact made a decision in February this year when I was sworn in as president in Caracas. We decided that the presidents of the Andean Pact countries would meet every 6 months in Caracas to evaluate the progress of the Cartagena Agreement and to make the presidents responsible for the leadership and success of the Andean Pact.

This is how the Europeans did it. This is how the Southeast Asian countries did it. This is how all the peoples that truly wanted to work for success did it. We will now begin this new stage of the Andean Pact. Latin America also has the Group of Eight, which is still in the rhetorical stage of integration. We are sure, however, that we will soon begin the implementation stage.

The truth is, dear fellow countrymen of Bolivia, that we have no other option, no other course to follow, if we want to remain sovereign and independent. The entire world is merging into huge economic units and great nationalities. What could we, even immense Brazil and great Argentina, do alone against the EEC, which is rising before our eyes as the greatest, most powerful market in the world? What could we do against the Southeast Asian countries? What could we do against the United States and Canada, merged into a single great market? What could we, the divided and impoverished Latin American nations, do?

There is no time to waste. We must make decisions; world circumstances demand that we do. Luckily for us, this is all taking place during a global detente unprecedented in the years since World War II.

Mr Gorbachev's attitude and U.S. President Bush's response indicate a gradual lessening of regional conflicts leading to their total eradication. Cuban troops have left Angola and the process of liberation has alredy begun in Namibia. Troops have left Afghanistan and the Palestinians have begun talks with the United States. Here in Central America we see with satisfaction that the efforts of the Contadora Group and the Group of Eight, the Esquipulas II accords of the Central Americans themselves, and the meetings in Tesoro Beach in El Salvador and Tela in Honduras have set Central American countries on the course of dialogue and agreement toward ending the conflict that has worried us so much and that we saw as a serious threat to our democracy and our Latin America.

It is true that we have a new problem in that area: Panama. There we have two serious, important problems. On one hand we have the Torrijos-Carter treaties, which were a Latin American accomplishment. These treaties are a step toward integration, although little has been said about this. Honestly speaking, all Latin American nations have become guarantors of these treaties, which peacefully return the Canal Zone to its legitimate owners, the Panamanian people, through an agreement with the most powerful nation in the world.

Now we are facing a crisis that can jeopardize these treaties. This is a great challenge for us because these treaties are one of the main accomplishments of Latin American unity and consensus.

But, we see that for the first time in the eighties, the democratic decade, a dictatorship is sprouting in that Central American nation. This is happening just as democracy must serve as an unassailable basis for strengthening faith in the sovereignty over the Canal Zone, a faith that is beginning to yield its first fruits in the process established by the Torrijos-Carter treaties. These accords provide that in January 1990 the presidency of the joint commission that administers the canal will change from a U.S. chairman to a Panamanian chairman. This is a preparatory step for the definitive relinquishing of the canal on 1 January 2000 to the Panamanians.

This situation is causing worry and concern and we must do everything we can to let the Panamanian people freely elect their government so as to reestablish democracy and to make sure that there will be no pretext for jeopardizing the Torrijos-Carter treaties, which are part of Latin American history and a Latin American mandate. [applause]

It is impossible to speak in Bolivia without mentioning the drug trade, and the drug problem. Northern countries are used to holding Latin American countries responsible for all the evils stemming from drug abuse because we are the producers. They overlook, however, the market that they are always offering us, the law of supply and demand. If there is no demand, there can be no supply. There is no demand for drugs in our countries; the demand comes from developed countries.

I am not saying this merely to shift responsibility to the developed countries, but to sy that we must reconsider the facts. There is total interdependence today in the world, but interdependence is a two-way street: Because there are interdependent problems, there must also be interdependent solutions.

This is what the Latin American countries are seeking. In Bolivia, coca is an age-old crop that has been a mainstay for thousands of Bolivians. Bolivia has never tolerated or accepted converting the coca tree into drugs that are a threat to human life. Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia cannot be held responsible for what is happening, because the money, the techniques, and the planes are not Bolivian, Peruvian, or Colombian. This is the truth they must now hear.

But let us not view this problem with irritation: We have already learned to become patient. A historic meeting took place a few days ago in Ica, prior to the meeting of the Group of Eight. Peruvian President Alan Garcia, Colombian President Virgilio Barco, and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora met to seek an agreement among these three countries, which are the main centers of drug production in Latin America, to invite the U.S. Government to face to face discussions on a situation that should concern all of us and for which we are all equally responsible.

The drug problem is part of the Latin American economic problem; the drug problem is part of the Latin American debt problem. We must all take part in seeking realistic solutions to these problems, which are affecting all of humankind and which are threatening world peace at a time of relaxation.

I fully support the steps taken by Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia and we have firmly stated our solidarity with the terrible tragegy being endured by the Colombian people, because the drug trade structure has managed to infiltrate the entire fabric of Colombian society. But with optimism and action, unity and solidarity, we will be able to overcome these problems.

Now that all of our nations are already democratic or will be democratic, we are faced with the great challenge of proving our ability to take concerned action, to achieve unity, and to show our fraternal ties. We must now see how and when we can obtain a sea outlet for Bolivia, which is a right shared by all of Latin America. [applause]

The president of the Chamber of Deputies has just quoted phrases from the speech I delivered at that historic, unforgettable ceremony marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of Bolivia. The words I used at

that time have the same force today and those words continue [words indistinct]. [applause]

Thinking aloud, I would say that we will make the objective of seeking an agreement to obtain a sea outlet for Bolivia a topic of and a chapter in Latin American integration. We should no longer look at the situation as the consequence of old disputes and feuds; we shold look at it now with a positive mind. Let us address this problem—which discourages and upsets the Bolivian people—and make it a factor in understanding, strengthening ties, and promoting Latin American dialogue.

The quest for a solution to the Bolivian sea problem will be instrumental over the next few years in ascertaining whether there is true democracy in our region. A few years ago we had another explosive, extremely serious situation in the region: the Beagle conflict. At that time, two countries in the southern cone managed to reach an agreement through dialogue and negotiation—which always means making mutual concessions—and they once and for all averted the possibility of a war that would have had disastrous effects for Latin America and the world.

My Bolivian brothers, this is how we should address this problem. I am saying we because this is how it is going to be; it is not just a Bolivian problem but a Latin American problem, and we should take a Latin American approach [applause] to finding a solution to the Bolivian sea problem.

We are witnessing another example, the one set by the new Argentine Government. I do not think that the Argentine Government has relinquished its rights to the Malvinas. It has ended a quarrel and opened a new stage in starting discussions with Great Britain on this other claim, which is also a Latin American claim. The Malvinas belong to Argentina, and Latin America will contribute to helping Argentina recover these islands. [applause]

Messrs Senators and Deputies, I wanted to come to this forum without a prepared speech because I wanted to convey to you my true feelings and thoughts about the realities of our common fatherland. I have taken my time because I have many ideas to express, and I would like to spend a long time talking with my Bolivian brothers. I want to say, however, that this is no longer the time for rhetoric; it is time for action. Let us get to work, Bolivians, to build our fatherland and our Latin America. [applause]

President Discusses Proposed Meeting With Bush

PY1410154689 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 11 Oct 89 p 7

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Ica, 20 Sep (PRESENCIA)—Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora has said here today that he is very satisfied with the meeting he held with Colombian President Virgilio Barco and Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez.

The three presidents signed a joint communique reaffirming their firm political decision to continue the antidrug struggle.

Paz Zamora held an unexpected informal news conference shortly before a lunch with his Colombian and Peruvian counterparts after their talks had concluded.

Paz Zamora said: "We believe it was necessary for the Bolivian, Colombian and Peruvian presidents to hold a meeting to exchange experiences and opinions and above all to express the political decision to fight drug trafficking jointly.

The presidents stated in a communique that they will invite the U.S. President to attend a joint meeting to be held within 90 days.

Asked whether he believed that President Bush would accept the invitation, Paz Zamora replied: "President Bush himself has made the proposal to hold a meeting."

He added that Bush himself talked about the three coca-leaf "growing" countries and that therefore "I think there will not be any problem in holding that meeting."

Paz Zamora said that the European countries will be invited to attend the meeting because they have recently shown great interest in taking joint actions against drug trafficking.

"Provided there is international awareness of the problem and a sense of corresponsibility for its solution, the three countries would like all interested nations to participate," he said.

Paz Zamora said that the United States should try "to join" efforts with other countries to obtain positive results.

Asked whether Bolivia would accept the presence of U.S. troops to fight drug trafficking, he replied: "No sir."

He said that the meeting of the three countries was aimed at proposing a common, joint position "both to the United States and to the European countries."

Paz Zamora said: "We exchanged opinions and experiences to make the decision on the joint proposal." He added that the drug trafficking problem should be resolved "in a way that can greatly benefit Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia."

Asked about his opinion of the Bennett Plan, he said that the meeting with President Bush is designed to exchange ideas, "to learn about our mutual opinions...I do not believe that this is the time to express an advance opinion," he added.

Brazil

Sarney on Bush's 'Positive Agenda' in Region

PY1610031789 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Oct 89 p A-6

[Report from Inca, Peru, by Sergio Leo]

[Excerpt] U.S. President George Bush has responded in a more positive way to the Brazilian Government's claims. This is the opinion of President Jose Sarney, who drew a comparison between Bush and his predecessor, Ronald Reagan. Commenting on Bush, Sarney said: "He is seeking to formulate a positive agenda, trying first to overcome disagreements." He added: "Although dimly [embora palidamente], President Bush has changed the direction of U.S. relations with Latin America."

This was the second time in 1 day that Sarney lauded President Bush's receptiveness. Sarney was in Peru for 3 days to attend a meeting of the Group of Eight, an informal mechanism for negotiation made up of Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Panama. On Wednesday morning, shortly before the official opening of the meeting, Sarney made brief remarks to FOLHA about an informal dinner he had had the previous night with four of the presidents attending the Group of Eight summit in Ica, a city in the Peruvian desert.

Sarney said that Bush's name was mentioned more than any other name during the dinner in view of this "dim change," albeit positive, in U.S. relations with Latin America. Speaking to Brazilian and foreign reporters after another dinner last night, Sarney elaborated on his comparison between Reagan and Bush: "Since our meeting in Tokyo (last year) I have proposed a positive agenda to President Bush on topics that would unite us instead of widening our differences. I had proposed the same thing to President Reagan, but his reply was not so positive."

Sarney said that Bush is ready to seek points of contact on sensitive issues, such as restrictions on the Brazilian computer market and exports of Brazilian steel (which, according to the United States, is unfairly subsidized). Sarney said that these topics will be inherited by his successor. "At the time of my inauguration, on 7 September, I received a telegram from President Reagan. I thought he was congratulating me, but that telegram announced commercial retaliatory actions," Sarney said. [passage omitted]

Chile

Pinochet Confirms CNI To Be Dismantled

PY1410013389 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] In addition to confirming that the CNI [National Intelligence Center] will be dismantled because that agency has served the military government, President Pinochet said that his followers will be able to see him at his post of Army commander in chief, where he will have the doors open to anyone who might be interested in talking with him. Pinochet added that this offer should not be given any other interpretation.

When he was told that some sectors are looking to him as a guarantor in case of any eventuality, Pinochet said:

[Begin Pinochet recording] This is a mistake. I am not to serve as guarantor in case of any development. I will be there to enforce respect for the institutional order. [end recording]

As for how the institutional order can be disrupted, Pinochet said that, as it happened in the 1970-73 period, order can be broken by violating the Constitution or disrespecting the Comptroller's Office, the Courts, the Chamnber of Deputies, as well as by creating organs not sanctioned by the Constitution.

Discusses Institutional Order

PY1410151189 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Report fron Punta Arenas by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpts] The president of the Republic has said here that his administration would have not achieved anything without the citizenry's support. He also thanked everyone who has worked for the well-being of Chile. He made these statements upon arriving at President Ibanez International Airport in Punta Arenas from Collaique. Before his departure from Collaique, President Pinochet made important statements to the media. [passage omitted]

In Collaique the president talked about national issues. When asked about how the institutional order could be broken, he said that it could happen just as it did from 1970 to 1973 when the Constitution, the national comptroller's office, the judicial branch, and the Chamber of Deputies were not respected, and when unconstitutional organizations were created.

Pinochet also said that those government officials who have been loyal to his administration cannot be dismissed because there is an administrative statute that does not allow it. [passage omitted]

Finally, he categorically reiterated his warning that no one will touch him or his men, and that if this happens the state of law [estado de derecho] will be ended. When asked if he will maintain that no one may touch or persecute his men, Pinochet answered: You know that I will. [passage omitted]

MIR Denounces Wave of Repression Since 4 Oct

PY1310101489 Santiago FORTIN MAPOCHO in Spanish 2 Oct 89 p 5

[Excerpt] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) has reported that the government of General

Augusto Pinochet has unleashed a wave of repression in Chile, seeking to exclude the leftist forces from the December presidential elections.

MIR leader Roberto Moreno and other members of the MIR political commission have said in a news conference that the wave of repression began on 4 September when an armed command killed MIR spokesman Jecar Neghme.

The leaders said that the arrest of candidate for deputy Claudina Nunez, who is charged with instigating tens of "homeless" families to occupy an empty lot, is part of this wave of repression. They added that unidentified people are following Estela Ortiz [not further identified] and that the police are searching for MIR leader Hernan Aguilo, who is underground.

The leaders said that these actions are aimed at "excluding the leftist forces from the current process" that will culminate with the 14 December presidential elections. [passage omitted]

Vandalism at CUT Rally in Estacion Central

PY1410195889 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Violent elements who attended the demonstration staged by the United Labor Federation, CUT, in support of opposition candidate Patricio Aylwin caused damage worth over 2.5 million pesos.

Estacion Central Mayor Felipe Palacios made this announcement, estimating the damage to public and private property in this area.

Palacios said that he reached an agreement with acting CUT Chairman Diego Olivares, by which the CUT has promised to clean the walls painted with slogans and to repair the street signs that were damaged. Palacios said that the owners of private houses damaged by the demonstrators reserve the right to take court action.

The mayor added that he will soon meet with Metropolitan Intendant Brigadier General Carlos Carvallo to ask that political rallies in Estacion Central be banned, since the residents of that area have frequently complained about the rallies.

Colombia

Wave of Bombings, Attacks, Killings Continue

2 Injured in Bello

PA1210170889 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1216 GMT 12 Oct 89

[Text] Medellin—Two people were slightly injured and property damage initially estimated at 2 million pesos was incurred as the result of two dynamite attacks carried out against two jewelry stores, La Ruleta No 1 and La Ruleta No 2, located a few meters from the main park in Bello Municipality in the northern part of the Aburra Valley.

The bombs exploded at 0120. The jewelry stores, owned by Jacobo Gil Ortega, a well-known businessman in the municipality, were almost completely destroyed, according to the authorities' report.

It should be noted that 8 days ago the La Bastilla Jewelry Store, which is also located in the Bello Park and is owned by the same man, was the target of another attack in which one person was killed and two others injured. A month ago, the businessman's son, Nicolas Gil Correa, and his girlfriend, Yolima Moreno, were gunned down near the Fabricato Factory, and 5 months ago his other son, Guillermo Leon Gil Correa, was shot down at an ice cream parlor in the Bello Park. In view of this, the authorities have attributed the attacks on the jewelry stores to a personal grudge.

Journalist Killed in Monteria

PA1410161889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1545 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 14 Oct (DPA)—The wave of criminal attacks to which Colombian journalists are currently being subjected continued last night when William Bendeck Olivella, director of a radio newscast in the northern city of Monteria, was killed by unidentified persons.

According to reports received in Bogota, the newsman, 57, was about to enter his home when he was gunned down by several armed men.

Bendeck Olivella had been press assistant to Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza but went to Colombia after the triumph of the Sandinist revolution.

Bendeck Olivella is the second newsman to be murdered this week. On 10 October, several gunmen killed Roberto Sarasty Botero, who worked for the Caracol radio network in Medellin.

Although the authorities do not yet have detailed information, the possibility that Bendeck Olivella may have been murdered for political reasons has not been ruled out since he was a political specialist.

For more than a month, newsmen in Colombia have been facing a serious threat from the drug-trafficking mafia, which even partially destroyed the main offices of the Bogota morning paper EL ESPECTADOR, in reprisal for the paper's harsh attacks on the cocaine trafficking organizations.

Third Drug Cartel Uncovered in Bogota

PA1310200789 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Soldiers of the 3d Brigade today discovered a huge drug-processing laboratory on the outskirts of Bogota.

According to authorities, this discovery confirms the existence of a third and powerful drug cartel. The authorities seized 45 kg of cocaine and arrested seven persons in the operation. Here is a report:

[Reporter] A scared peasant arrived this week at the 13th Brigade's artillery school and asked to be taken to the commanding officer. He told the commander that he had seen very strange things in his neighborhood of Apasquilla, in the Usme municipality on the outskirts of Bogota, where only trucks are seen. Late-model cars and Mazdas arrived in the early morning hours. The peasant told the commander that the whole town was scared. The strange night visitors went to a house, the shutters of which were closed.

The soldiers, following his directions, found a huge cocaine-processing laboratory in La Floresta farm in nearby Usme Municipality. They found 45 1-pound [as heard] bundles of cocaine with an estimated value of 5 million pesos. There were also 11 kg of coca base and at least 100 kg more of cocaine being processed, weapons, acetone, ether, filters, presses, ovens, and a strange, unidentified acid.

Seven people who were sleeping inside the house yesterday morning when the soldiers arrived were arrested. They are all over 30 years old and said they were hired to plant potatoes.

The farm's owner was also arrested. He is Jose Uclides Cadena, 60. He claims that he rented out the farm for 200,000 pesos monthly but that he does not know his tenants.

According to authorities, they have found other laboratories on the outskirts of Bogota, which proves the existence of a third cartel.

'Terrorism' Causes Business Decline in Bogota

PA1310161289 Paris AFP in Spanish 0719 GMT 12 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 11 Oct (AFP)—A survey by the Bogota Chamber of Commerce has revealed that the rising number of terrorist attacks that have shaken the Colombian capital in the last 2 months has caused an 18.1-percent drop in business sector sales.

According to the survey, which revealed that restaurants have been most affected, the dynamite attacks unleashed in this city since President Virgilio Barco's government declared war on drug dealers are the main cause the business decline.

For 51.4 percent of entrepreneurs, the business sector is enduring hard times, while 83.35 percent of the restaurant owners reported their businesses are enduring the sharpest reduction in sales.

However, urban terrorism, which the authorities are blaming on the drug-trafficking mafias, is not the only reason for the deterioration of business in Bogota, where sales activity has declined since the 1st quarter of the year.

Despite the terror created by "narcoterrorism," 53 percent of the businessmen vowed to continue with their business activities and said they would not let the attacks intimidate them.

In the last 2 months, there have been over 60 attacks in Bogota.

Ransom Ask for Venezuelan President's In-Law

PA1310234389 Paris AFP in Spanish 2257 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Text] Cucuta, Colombia, 13 Oct (AFP)—The family of Norberto Rodriguez Rodriguez, the brother-in-law of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, said today that the people who kidnapped 72-year-old Rodriguez Rodriguez are asking for $10 million, approximately 4.1 billion pesos, for his release. Ines Rodriguez Colmenares, daughter of the kidnapped man, today read a statement on the privately owned RCN [Radio Cadena Nacional], the main radio station along the Colombian - Venezuelan border, in which the family states that the sum requested is "unimaginable."

Rodriguez, former Venezuelan consul in Cucuta, was kidnapped on 14 July by four persons who had remained silent until a few hours ago.

In their statement, the Rodriguez family said that the $10-million ransom is not within their reach and added that "the kidnappers must know what our real economic capacity is."

"We are willing to negotiate our father's release, but within our means," the document adds.

The kidnappers, believed to be members of the pro-Castro Army of National Liberation (ELN), reportedly advised the Rodriguez family yesterday of their decision to negotiate his release.

Norberto Rodriguez is the brother of Blanca de Perez, wife of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

Extraditions of Detainees to U.S. Continue

Alleged Traffickers Handed to DEA

PA1410190189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1820 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Report by Jose Luis Ramirez]

[Text] Ana Elena Rodriguez, Bernardo Pelaez Roldan, and Roberto Peter Carlini were handed over to the U.S. DEA at daybreak today under strict security measures. The detainees were at the F-2 [expansion unknown] installations for several days. The extradition order took them by surprise early this morning. A U.S. Air Force airplane waited for them at Bogota's El Dorado Airport.

Meanwhile, seven other people, allegedly with drug-trafficking links, were captured in various operations carried out in different parts of the country. They are Leonidas

Vargas Vargas, Manuel Palma Molina, Fabio Vargas, Simon Tovar, Ricardo Edgar Urias Alfonso, Diafanor Lasso Giraldo, and a woman who, according to the authorities, did Jose Gonzalez Gacha's accounting.

Simultaneously, Victor Mera was being arrested in Cali. Within the next few hours, he will be sent to the United States.

3 More Detainees To Be Extradited

PA1510163189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1544 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 15 Oct (DPA)—A Defense Ministry spokesman confirmed today that three Colombian alleged narcotics traffickers who were captured in the last 72 hours—Victor Eduardo Mera Mosquera, Manuel Julian Palma, and Leonidas Vargas Vargas—have been notified they will be extradited to the United States.

Since President Virgilio Barco Vargas declared "total war" on the cocaine cartels on 18 August, four Colombians charged with smuggling drugs and laundering dollars from that illegal activity have been sent to the United States.

Yesterday, Ana Beatriz Rodriguez Zuniga, Bernardo Pelaez Roldan, and Victor Roberto Carlini were extradited. On 6 September, Eduardo Martinez Romero, the the powerful Medellin Cartel's "chief of finance," was turned over to an Atlanta, Georgia, court.

Mera Mosquera, 36, was captured yesterday in Cali. He is wanted by Manhattan judiciary authorities to answer charges on drug trafficking. According to a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) spokesman, Mera Mosquera belonged to the mafia group led by Colombians Severo Escobar and Antonio Cabrera Sarmientos, who are serving 30-year sentences for distributing cocaine in New York, Florida, Texas, California, and Arizona. Mera Mosquera had been captured once in New York (February 1984) and again in Bogota (August 1986), but he was released after some legal maneuvering.

For his part, Manuel Julian Palma, a Colombian television tycoon, was arrested in Barranquilla. He is wanted by the Miami Federal Court on charges of narcotics trafficking and money laundering.

The other captured extraditable, Leonidas Vargas Vargas, is also wanted by a Bogota [as received] court. He was arrested in Mariquita Municipality (230 km from Bogota) by policemen. According to the secret police, Vargas Vargas is an "important" narcotics trafficker who had his "headquarters" in Caqueta Department in southern Colombia and was "very closely" linked to Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, the No. 2 man in the Medellin Cartel. In addition, he is charged with financing the shady squads of paid assassins in the extensive Colombian eastern plains. Vargas Vargas was captured together with six other people during an operation in which the authorities found weapons, communications equipment, and computers.

Meanwhile, it was learned today that elite troops arrested Tulia Consuelo Rincon Barrera, 35, an accountant of the enterprises run by Rodriguez Gacha and Vargas Vargas. The police reported that Mrs Rincon Barrera was in charge of organizing the sales of fighting bulls and of keeping the mafia organizations' expense accounts.

Minister Says Antidrug Campaign To Proceed

PA1610000489 Paris AFP in Spanish 1552 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 15 Oct (AFP)—Briefly assessing the results of the struggle that both President Virgilio Barco's government and the Armed Forces have been waging against drug trafficking, Colombian Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo said they will not yield to those who advocate and use violence.

General Botero said the Army will not permit vandalism or any other kind of organized violence to prevail in Colombia.

Although he admitted that the public order situation is serious, the minister said the efforts of the Armed Forces to control the wave of terrorism will continue in earnest.

He said the number of terrorist actions have declined considerably in several cities, thanks to the people's cooperation and the work of the Armed Forces and the organizations committed to preserving the country's security.

The minister added that the authorities and justice cannot bend before the shady interests of the drug traffickers.

On 18 August, the Army and the police unleashed a relentless assault on the Medellin and Cali drug cartels after hit men killed presidential candidate Senator Luis Carlos Galan in Bogota.

Londono on Mitterrand Visit, Coffee Pact

PA1310171389 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 89

[Interview with Foreign Minister Julio Londono by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Londono] Not only has the French Government made a gesture of solidarity with the Colombian people and Government through President Mitterrand's presence in Bogota to express his support for our efforts, but the president of the Republic also had an opportunity to raise with him bilateral matters and matters of commercial interest to our country. As you said, the French president expressed his determination to make every effort necessary to restore the coffee agreement, not only on behalf of the French Government but also in his capacity as EEC president.

He also informed the Colombian head of state of his readiness to talk with the EEC member countries about eventually opening the EEC market on a preferential-trade

basis to our country's products. However, he warned that he did not know if his final effort in this regard would be accepted [2-second break in reception] France and EEC president.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, The French president announced another visit to Colombia. He said he will come to our country for a third time. Is it known when he will visit? Regarding this EEC opening, is it possible that President Barco will speak at the European Parliament, for instance, in Strasbourg?

[Londono] Yes, President Mitterrand expressed his decision to accept an invitation from the Colombian president to return to Colombia, but no trip has been scheduled for President Barco. I can simply point out that quite often a very brief visit not involving any protocol—like this visit of President Mitterrand—can be much more effective and productive than a visit with full diplomatic ceremonies, which are usual in such cases. The results of this visit have been good and very comforting to Colombia.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, are you leaving for immediate meetings of the Andean Group foreign ministers?

[Londono] Yes, next week there will be a meeting of foreign ministers of the Andean Group. It will serve to continue the yearly discussions of matters connected with the integration and the political position of the Andean Group member countries within the Latin American context. You may recall that the last meeting of this kind was held in Cartagena. We will now go to La Paz to continue our ongoing discussions.

Now, more than ever, our country is supported in international forums by all countries. I think our country has demonstrated for a long time that it struggles with its own principles, criteria, and goals; that it is not as has been depicted for a long time by some media in Europe, the United States, and even in Latin America; that Colombia is a country that deserves respect; that it has achieved great things; that its people are vigorous, brave, and hard working; and that there is only a small minority who do not support Colombia's overall goals.

[Reporter] It is said President Bush may come to Colombia and the summit with the other Latin American countries—with Bolivian President Paz Zamora and Peruvian President Alan Garcia—may be held in our country. When and where would this be, Mr Foreign Minister?

[Londono] These are just news reports. There has been no confirmation yet in this regard. I can simply point out that President Barco has been invited to a meeting of Latin American heads of state in San Jose, Costa Rica, later this month. Colombia's presence has not been defined yet. Our international activity has been very intense, very hectic, and thus the presence of the Colombian head of state in San Jose, Costa Rica, has not been defined yet.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, I have two questions. One is economic in nature and one is about sports. The biggest headache for our economy—aside from the economic figures—presently is coffee. We have the support of France, the United States, the Africans, and the EEC. But, as our delegates in London have said, Brazil is apparently the biggest obstacle to the new coffee agreement. Did President Barco have an opportunity to talk with Brazilian President Jose Sarney or did you talk with your Brazilian colleague, Joao Batista de Abreu, about this thorny issue of the coffee agreement?

[Londono] Yes, obviously. President Barco talked with President Sarney on the subject. I talked with Brazilian Foreign Minister Abreu—who, as you know, aside from being foreign minister is one of Brazil's most powerful individual coffee growers. These are short-term situations, different viewpoints, and opposing interests for various reasons. However, the Brazilian president expressed his government's readiness to hold a dialogue on this matter and raised the possibility of making a concerted effort again regarding the economic clauses in the coffee agreement.

He said this to the head of state. Naturally, we will have to wait first for the results of the efforts and contacts that are being made within the corresponding levels of the Brazilian Coffee Institute [Instituto Brasileno del Cafe] and the National Federation of Colombian Coffee Growers to give a final opinion in this regard.

The important thing is that it is evident—as the French president said yesterday—that countries such as ours have, above all, the right to receive fair payment for the products of our soil and subsoil. They represent the fundamental basis for struggling against absolute poverty, which is one of the guidelines and objectives the Colombian head of state has set for himself. [passage omitted on discussion of sports]

Development Minister Resigns Over Land Deal

PA1410125189 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 7 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] The controversial development minister, Carlos Arturo Marulanda Ramirez, formally resigned from his post yesterday in a letter to President of the Republic Virgilio Barco.

Marulanda sent another three-page letter to the president explaining the points he considers are the most important in the negotiation of land at Bellacruz farm. This negotiation, which involves INCORA [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform], led to the minister's downfall.

With the resignation of the development minister, who will definitely leave his office next week, the ministerial crisis, which the media and especially EL SIGLO had predicted, is worsening. Sources close to Narino Palace claim the new cabinet will hold on until the end of President Barco's term.

It has been learned that Agriculture Minister Gabriel Rosas-Vega will be appointed development minister and that his post will be filled by Electoral Court Magistrate Alvaro Campo Posada.